
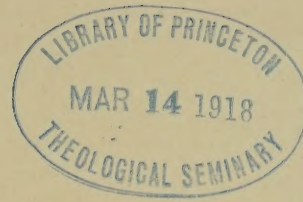


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Bogart, John, fl. 1776-1782
The John Bogart letters



THE JOHN BOGART LETTERS

Forty-two Letters
written to John Bogart of Queen's College
now Rutgers College
and Five Letters written by him,
1776—1782

WITH NOTES

Rutgers College
New Brunswick, New Jersey
1914

FOREWORD

THE name of John Bogart appears in the list of the earliest graduates of Queen's, now Rutgers, College. The college was founded by charter from George III., November 10th, 1766; an amended charter was granted by the King, March 20th, 1770; and the college began its work in November, 1771. Sixteen men are named in the general catalogue as having been graduated in the first decade. The loss of almost all of the college records of this time has left the dates and perhaps the names incomplete. John Bogart, it is known, was graduated in 1778: he was at once placed in charge of the Grammar School which had been opened some years before the college, and he was for a time in charge of the classes of Queen's College itself. Almost a century and a quarter after his college days, a bundle of letters preserved in his family was given by his grandniece to the Reverend Charles T. Anderson, at that time minister of the Dutch Reformed Church at Bound Brook. When finally untied and opened by Mr. Anderson, the bundle was found to contain forty-two letters written to John Bogart and five written by him within the period, 1776 to 1782. They are now in the possession of Rutgers College. The writers, save one, were Queen's College friends—students, graduates, tutor, president: eight of them are among the sixteen men graduated before 1781, one was graduated in 1782, and two were graduated in 1783: most of them became distinguished in war, politics or professional life. Their letters show something of the customs of the times and tell something of the affairs of war: they display the manner of writing usual then, and give glimpses of individual character. They are especially interesting as a product of the earliest student life of Queen's and as bringing to all sons of Rutgers some light on the beginnings of their Alma Mater.

The letters are printed in chronological order. The original spelling, capitals, punctuation and paragraphs are preserved as far as possible. The address usually found on the back, no envelope being used, is printed at the head of each letter.

Letters of John Bogart: August 10, 1776; October 5, 1776; October 12, 1776;
March 1, 1780; August 27, 1782.

Letter of John Stagg, Jr.: June 28, 1776.

Letter of David Annan: June 2, 1776.

Letters of Simeon DeWitt: August —, [1776]; October 4, 1776; August 6, 1777;
February 14, 1778; October 8, 1778; July 25, 1779; ——— [1779];
January 10, 1780; May 8, 1780; June 26, 1780; May 8, 1781; August
1, 1781.

Letters of Simeon Van Artsdalen: March 23, 1777; October 1, 1777; October 13,
1777; December 6, 1777; June 25, 1778; June 5, 1780; November 13,
1780; March 28, 1781.

Letter of Samuel Smith: April 27, 1778.

Letters of James Schureman: July 27, 1778; ———.

Letters of John Taylor: July 2, 1779; March 9, 1780; March 3, 1782; April 11,
[1782]; May 1, [1782]; November 17, 1782.

Letters of Nicholas Lansingh: August 2, 1779; May 8, 1780; June 3, 1780;
October 18, 1781; January 31, 1782.

Letter of Jeremiah Smith: August 14, 1780.

Letter of Timothy Blauvelt: September 29, 1781.

Letter of Jacob R. Hardenbergh: November 13, 1781.

Letter of Isaac Blauvelt: April —, 1782.

Letter of Matthew Light: August 9, 1782.

Letter of Michael D. Henry: ——— [1782].

THE LETTERS

I

To Mr. John Bogert
Student in Queen's College,
New Brunswick.

Pr favour }
Thompson }

New York, June 28th, 1776.

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 25th Instant I received with much Pleasure, and have scarce so much Time as to Answer it. You desired me in your Letter, to let you know some of the Particulars of that infernal Tory Plot, but I can say very little about it now, having no Time, as I said before—You will see something more about it in next Monday or Thursdays Paper. So much I can say—That this Day, I saw one of his Excellency's General Washington's Life Guards, hanged, who was chiefly concerned in this affair, namely, that of intending to murder his Excellency—He seemed to be but very little daunted, and marched from the Goal to the Place of Execution, where (after the Chaplain had prayed with him) the rope was fixed about his Neck and in 3 [?] minutes Time, he was no more.

Our Mayor, who I dare say you have heard was one of those villians, has confessed that he received Money from Governor Tryon, for to hire men, to execute this hellish plot— . . . I would ten times rather see him, and some more of those Traitors, strung up, than eat a meal of Victuals, for nothing will do 'till Examples are made of some of them; and the sooner the better - - - Tell Dewitton I congratulate him, on his, being metamorphosed into a Pedagogue, and I dont joke it.

I hope you will write by Thompson and send me the Journal, if you have completed it—Remember me to the sweet Jewels—and to the Gentlemen of the Athenian Society, ask Evil, why he did not * * * * * answer his Letter wrote to him by Voorhees

NB, Excuse the bad

writing as I am in

haste and my Pen very bad

~~2d~~ dont forget the Journal.

I am dear Bogert yours,

John Stagg Junr.

I wish I was at brunswick again

—Oh! Dear Bectcy

II

To
Mr. John Bogart
Student in Queen's College
at Nth Branch

To the Care
of Mr. Samuel
Louden, N. York

Wall Kill June 29th 1776.

Mr Bogart and Mr. Vanarstdallen, my Dear old friends; The very mention of your names diffuses a joy over all my mind, and makes me wish to be in your presence. You can't imagine Gentlemen how often I think upon you. I suppose myself sometimes gitting out of my room in great hurry to go and smoke a pipe with you. As soon as I come into your room, I see you immediately smiling and one of you running away and getting a pipe, while the other makes all preparations to drown our cares with a flowing bowl. I among the rest seize hold of it, and take a hearty pull. Ay, now I feel in good Blood, now I can smoke a pipe. This is a specimen of some of our agreeable and

merry scenes. Whenever I feel dull or heavy, I immediately imagine myself among the midst of you, when all my Lethargy is instantly expell'd. My Dear Companions I should be exceeding glad to see you. Perhaps I may come down to the Commencement. I am sorry Mr Van arstdallen that I could not have come and seen you at your father's; but Mr Bogart will explain that matter to you. After I came down from your house Mr Bogart, I found that Mr. Vredenburgh was going off to Albany, and that there was a clear passage to New York. I thought therefore it was expedient to embrace the favorable opportunity which hinderd me from going to Philadelphia. My good friends I am in a hurry write with the first opportunity. I am &c.,

David Annan

P.S. excuse my writing to you both in one letter on account of paper. remember me to old von Kirk [?] and family. D.A.

III

North Branch August 10 1776.

Dear Sir

I now begin and I hope we shall maintain a useful and advantageous Correspondance. Since I left you I have been engaged in the Study of Logick and am apt to think if my thin lanthorn Jaws had not been pretty well secured I should have made an odd Figure the next time you shall chance to see me. If my Jaws have fared so ill, you may guess the Fate of my Brains. I began to divide them into several Divisions and Subdivisions. One corner of them I designed for the reception of such particular Ideas and another for a different kind and so on for the rest till all the Subdivisions had been filled with its peculiar set of Ideas. this you must understand was all done by Abstraction.—But luckily for me whilst I was very intently engaged I was all at once interrupted by the biteing of a Flea. I caught the little despicable Insect and began to Consider its texture abstractedly. First I considered its Head and then its exterior parts and so united these two Ideas abstracted Ideas together which was *Exteriorparti head*. Then I contemplated its Eyes and sharp Back and joined the parts of these Ideas which was *Sharp-eyesback* The Ideas appeared so droll that that I did not know what to make of them, and therefore conclude that the Doctor must have had such a sharp Genius that he could split Ideas ad infinitum and thus by considering the Essence Mode, Cause, Effect, Indentity & Contrariety of each part he could form Ideas congruous to the object or Archetype he designed——But it is Time to stop, Remember &c.

John Bogart

Simeon Dewitt

Coppy of a Letter.

IV

For

Mr John Bogart

North branch of Raritan

Dear Sir

I was extremely delighted at the reception of Your Letter to find that most important business a *Correspondence* begun and now Established upon a footing which promises the greatest Utility. Especially at the present decline of commerce and scarcity of Materials however the method which You have happily invented will never be destitute of Supplies from mere necessity Since This our *Correspondence* is to be carried on in Ideas which you know know are so easily conveyed in this manner from one place to another. This Invention Indeed appears worth inserting in the News *pro bono publico* and I doubt not but the generosity of our present age will advance an adequate reward—

The departments of your brain which you have adjusted to the different *Genus's* & *Species's* of your ware will prove to be very convenient; but your *Invoice* I must confess is scarce intelligible and I have been almost at my wits End what construction to lay Upon Your preposterous Terms such as *Sharp Eys black &c.* This obscurity has made me to Judge that You have not sufficiently learned the art of *Modification* or that the Dr. has Not yet taught You that in order to make a *whole* all the *parts* must be collected and thus prove deficient in Your *Enumeration*

I would advise You to reserve one division of Your Brain for the famous *ten Categories of Aristotle* which the learned sages of Antiquity have thought of such Value as to Expand them into Endless Volumes These no doubt will Enable You to outreason any lawyer in the Country And by the Assistance of these form a *sylogism* in what ever mood you please Whether in *Barbara Celarent* or any of the rest only mark whether the conclusion is to be in A, E, I or O which will instruct You how to place the *Middle term* whether it is to be the *subject* or *predicate* of the *major* or *minor* &c.

These instructions I thought might be of some service to You and so I leave you to Enlarge Upon them by *reflection & Abstraction*

But to turn to seriousness, I am now going to acquaint You that I am left quite disconsolate forsaken by all my pleasant companions Mr Taylor Also is gone he marched last wednesday & if it was not for the *Dear creatures* in Town I would become entirely Meloncholy—Keep up the Correspondence—

I am Your Sincere friend

Simeon DeWitt

N Brunswick }
August }

P.S. Today we had our general Muster One half of the Militia were Drafted among Whom fell the lot of me And Dad—Orders are to be ready to March next Teusday—I am not Yet Determined what to do—Excuse me for not knowing the Day of the month Only its saturday I Expect I will go If you write write to the care of Mr Van Veg—

V

Dear Sir

If I had now some talkative female to instruct me I might write you an Epistle as long as my arm but would not venture to recommend it for sense However since such a help is not conveniently attainable at present, with my my usual gravity I will present you with what a dull genius can furnish an Indolent Pen. Perhaps, sir, you may take these preliminaries as a prelude to something pretended to be very elegant or an intimation under the pretext of apology of some extraordinary abilities as is usual with conceited fingers If this be really the case I will be honest enough to warn you of the contrary and you will find in the end the whole of my letter to be a disordered piece of work for when one undertakes to write merely for the sake of writing he must then make shift with what Ideal systems he can borrow from Imaginations and gradually fill up his letter with such thoughts as then happen to start in his mind. I have exchanged my obscure eastern corner for the sunny front of the house in order to receive the warmth of the solar rays these Raw windy days where my thoughts are continually diverted and variously exchanged by the different objects that pass along the street and by the way I may remark that this perhaps is the reason of this wildness of Syle however I sit at my window and observe the various movements below. but nothing employs my attention more than the pretty Girls. When I see a parcel of them pass by I immediately begin to reson with myself and compose syllogisms on them and sometimes indeed sophisms too Now I wish for the criticisms of *Lad* and then think what Swift or Horace would have said upon seeing such a variety of appearances in the same Species Some appearing like the picture of Mercury with wings to their heads their Elbows and so on others with their heads beat into conical spires whilst others again are flatted at top and

have the Brim prominent over the nose, which necessitates their heads to a graceful position in order to admit daylight to the Eyes Just so the turkey struts with the flabby skin upon his bill so the duck moves his tail. The other day I happened to cast my eye about and perceived a female form at a distance variegated with Silks and lawns and gawze & near a Bushel of ruffled stuf composed the superstructure. The least motion of her body discovered some affected gracefulness & I know not how indicated a consciousness of superior merit and excellence I admired her to be sure. Upon second consideration I determined to take a nearer View I accordingly advanced towards the heavenly Object & would have come within a few feet of her had I not been suddenly stopped by her turning toward me a whole broadside of her face at once. I was struck with surprise. The first thing that presented itself was the meeting of her nose and Chin at half distances and a ghastly grin between at second glance her Eyes glared direct upon me like the reflection of light from two opaque balls of glass her cheeks were drawn outwards and her forehead gathered into wrikles I turned About went to my room and composed this letter which is now finished & submitted to Your criticisms

I am Dear sir

yr

October 2, 1776

New Brunswick

For John Bogart Student

sincere friend

S D,Witt

VI

Septentrionalis amnis Raritan 5 Oct. 1776

Amice dulcissime.

Cur non scripsisti antehac miror, cum tantum Epistolas ultrô citroque transmittere Desiderium indixisti: praesertim, quia utilitas utroque fuerit, non Stylum epistolaram solum facere familiarem, sed Sententiae in Mentis nobis multae veniant recentes quae aliter occultatae fuissent. Fortasse pro Republica in horridis Bellis nunc configisa, si non aliter Te non vitupero sed incolumitatem precor. Latinè hanc pro Recreatione Epistolam scripsi—Me ad *Dad* et Dominum Taylor memento. O dulcissimae puellae expeto magnopere expeto vos videre.

Ubi es? Scribe si
possibile est

nunc vale

Johannes Bogart.

Si possibile est scribe.
melior est.

Fortasse Bella cum puellis nunc geris—
si, sic est, memento &c.

Ad Simeonem Dewitt—

Collegia Reginae
Discipulus

October 10, 1776, North Branch

Sr

Yesterday I was at the Landing and expected to have gone to Brunswick but to make an old beaten Excuse I had no time. I expected to have received a Letter from you before this Time. but setting aside Complement and Punctilio I again endeavor to Establish a Correspondence which I hope will continue.

VII

North Branch October 12. 1776.

Dear Sir

Long did I expect to receive a Letter from you, but waited long in vain. Many times I was just going to write but did not know where to direct my Letter. I almost began to think that you had taken a flight to some other world, or had forgot your old

Friends. But at last (Sep 26) unexpectedly I received yours of the 29th of June. You cannot imagine Sir, my Joy and Surprise when I found your name at the Bottom. But when I read it every Line was so agreeable to your former conversation, that it brought so many of our merry Scenes to mind and diffused such an agreeable hilarity over all my Soul, that I almost imagined my self in your presence. This naturally led me to reflect on our former Conduct. Those agreeable Scenes which you mention I often reflect upon with pleasure as they were conducted with reason & decorum, and were necessary to dispell that Gloominess which close Study naturally contracts. But Good Sir, when I look back on those hours which we have often in our Rooms conversing on Subjects which immediately related to our conduct in Life and others of the greatest Importance when we used to express our happiness by comparing it to a Heaven on Earth I say when I reflect on those Hours it affords me the highest satisfaction, as they have left such impressions on my mind as time cannot efface.

The loss of your company I often regret. Sometimes when I take an evening walk I wish that David was along to make my Exercise more diverting. By and by we would return drink a Bowl of milk punch, smoke a pipe, and have some greeable Chat. I greatly desire to see you and if it had not been for the present Troubles I believe you might have seen me at your Brothers this fall.

I received your last Letter, last Tuesday. What! have you a wooden petticoat? no but—you joke it. I would give ten shillings to see you in your new dress. Altho you have undergone this metamorphosis, which I imagine must have the same effect as entering the *Cave of Trophonius*. I can still perceive traces of your former merry Humour. Altho you have the same clothing I cannot believe that you have polished your Forhead as smooth as Light. Do you remember the time when old Mr Scheurman crept up the Ladder and looked thro' the back window when you was preaching out of the Lectures on heads: Can you yet sing that sweet word Mesopotamia. But to be serious I wish you much Joy. and hope that you may be a shining ornament to Society.

I am dr Sir your

John Bogert

To David Annan.

VIII

To Mr John Bogart Student,
North Branch of
Rariton

Per favour of }
Mr Garretson }

Northampton Bucks County,
March 23rd. 1777.

Dear Sir,

I condole with you the loss of former happiness. When I compare the present time with that which is past, and reflect on the agreeable hours we have spent when all together at Brunswick, and more especially in our society meetings of various kinds, it causes me now in my solitary moments to hang my head like the willow and mourn as a Dove without a mate. However when we consider that all nations have been subject to the calamities of war, and can give no reason why we should be more exempt than others, we cannot but be contented, and rest satisfied with whatever fate is brought upon us, for as you have justly observed many things to us seem losses which are blessings in disguise.

With respect to the present war there is one consolation with which I can greatly solace myself, that neither the king of Britain or any of his agents have universal command, but that an omnipotent God who will espouse a just cause has reserved that in his own hands. Had the inhuman Lord and General Howe existed in the antient times of heathen delusion they might have attributed their pretended successful excursions in the Jerseys to the fallacious directions of fickle chance, their conduct would have been more tolerable and themselves less culpable, But in these enlightened days it is quite the reverse, the horrid depredations they have committed while in Jersey cannot escape the

notice of omniscience. Altho they seemingly prospered in the midst of cruelty at their first arrival, yet by all accounts received from thence it appears that a stop is put to their career. We may for a considerable time feel the effects of war, yet I rest assured that God will do justice, and am also convinced that our cause is just, and have great reason from various instances to suppose that he has and will interpose in our behalf, Ergo I conclude America will finally be happy. My reasons for not coming to see you when I was over the River were not for want of respect, (for I assure you sir you are so far naturalized to me that instead of disrespect the case is quite the reverse) but circumstances at home being such as would not admit of my longer absence.

Inoculation for the small pox has been much practised here this winter, one in our family took them the natural way, the others were immediately inoculated and are now like to do well. Derrick Kroesen who came here from Middlebush had the operation performed on him, but alas! the desired end could not be obtained, the disorder took such impression on him, and bore with such a weight as could not be supported by human nature which caused him to expire last sunday morning.

I received your kind favour of 24th January with gratitude but it did not reach my hand before this day when it was brought home to me from Ledom's tavern.—Please to remember me to all friends and acquaintances when you see them.
I am sir, with respect yours &c.

Simeon Vanartsdalen

IX

Mr John Bogart Jr
North Branch
of Raritan

Dear Sir

That I rank you among the number of My Friends you may See by this Letter. I have wrote three Epistles besides this one this two hours past to Van Veghten Taylor & Van artsdalen And therefore You cant Expect I shall pretend to write A *fine Letter* I only want to let you know I do not Esteem You less than ever I did Nor shall time wear out my friendship to those for Whom I have had such an Affectionate Regard—I wrote You A Letter some time Ago whether You have received it or no I can't tell, You may now I think have An Oppertunity to Send me An Answer by Mr Minne Fisher Who is Carrying Mr Lansing to Raritan Do not neglect it—I have not heard A Word from any of My Brunswick friends since I left them Last Dec. What Do you then think is my Curiosity?—As for Myself I have done Very Little I have Been out with the Militia Last Winter to Tappan I have Seen Mr Light Mr Annan And Dr. Cochran Last Winter At Morristown

I wish I could Spend some time With You

—Dont for get to Write—I am Dear Sir

for Ever

Your sincere friend (in hast)

Simeon DeWitt

Rochester
August 6.-77

X

To Mr John Bogart Student
North Branch of
Raritan

Northampton, Bucks County,
October 1st. 1777.

Dear Sir,

I received your kind letter of 21st August very speedily but was at that time scarcely able to read it much less to write you another, however I applied to my brother

who wrote and sent one for me; but from what I have since heard I have reason to believe it never arrived to your hand.—It is now near six weeks since I was taken with both the Nervous and Intermitting Fevers, the greater part of which time I was in a very weak condition, and am now but just able to walk about a little.—I was pleased to hear that College was again to be opened, that we might once more have the opportunity to pursue our studies under our former Tutor, and I should have attended immediately had not the will of providence been otherwise. As the Jersey Militia seem to be in general on the march it is a matter of uncertainty with me whether Mr Taylor is with you or with his Batallion, I should therefore be glad if you would favour me with a few lines that I might be certain of the same since I expect if the times permit to be with you as soon as it shall please a good and gracious God to restore me to health and strength.—Some people are much alarmed here at present by reason of the enemy's approach, and have moved their most valuable articles over the River, others who are less timorous seem to be determined to stand the test be the consequences what they may. The enemy we hear have drawn their lines from Germantown to Frankfort and from thence to the River. This must suffice for the present. Please to remember me to Mr. Taylor if with you, and my dear friend Lansingh who I understand is come down.

I am dear Sir yours sincerely Simeon Vanartsdalen

N.B. Excuse my hand writing which is scarcely legible by reason of the unsteadiness of my hand.

XI

To

Mr John Bogart Student
North Branch
of
Rariton.

Northampton Bucks County
October 13th 1777.

Dear Sir,

I received your letter of the 23rd September and you cannot imagine how great a pleasure it affords me only to see the hand writing of my dear friends with whom I have spent so many agreeable hours, much more so I expect it will be to see them personally. The thoughts of returning to Jersey to prosecute my studies and enjoying the company of my dear associates oftentimes render me happy after having been depressed on account of the present tumult of war now near at hand and myself not capable of giving any assistance in repulsing the enemy, nor making my escape to avoid being made a captive should they have come into our neighborhood during my infirmity. When I received your first letter and heard that College was to commence I was a good deal apprehensive you might think I intended to quit College since you was unacquainted with the reason of my non attendance, but after I had a letter furnished and sent I was more easy in the matter, although you have perhaps never received it. You are quite excusable Sir for your military phrases, and also for making mention of the fair sex, you say I very well know the powerful effect they have on the other half of the species, this I allow and firmly believe it to be a knowlege that all our sex (with a small exception) is endowed with in a more or less degree. I have often compared the fair sex to the Loadstone and I think the simile holds good, for as the Loadstone by its powerful attraction causes particular bodies to adhere to it, so does the graceful behaviour and charming look of these amiable creatures draw the attention of the other sex, which in time tends to cause as near a cohesion as there is betwixt the Loadstone and any other particles of matter.

With respect to military affairs I think matters appear in a better light than what they did before the action at and near Germantown. By the best intelligence received the enemy have lost three or four men to our one. Our army we hear is at present very

formidable and in high spirits and will I hope by the divine aid be enabled to repulse the enemy from our borders. The Regulars I am informed have attempted to raise breast-works on shore to prevent our Row Gallies annoying their shipping which has occasioned an almost continual cannonading for two or three days past betwixt them and the Row Gallies.

I am dear sir yours sincerely Simeon Vanartsdalen—

XII

To

Mr. John Bogart Student
North Branch
Rariton—

Northampton Bucks County
Dec. 6th. 1777.

My Dear Friends,

With pleasure I embrace a present opportunity (altho in haste) to send you a few lines, and I should think myself happy in communicating nothing to you but what might be depended on.—The evacuation of our Forts below Philadelphia will I think admit of no doubt, for Gen. Greens Division which occupied those on the Jersey shore is now in on this side, the enemy have also recrossed the River to the City.—It is not expected that Gen. Washington will attack the City this season as numbers could not avail him in storming a place so well fortified as Phila. is reported to be, since but a small part could be in action at once in order to get entrance.—Our Army is yet encamped at White-Marsh and Edge-Hill, but it is expected they will soon move to Germantown for better Quarters, as they are at present much exposed to the inclemency of the season. Yesterday morning there was a very brisk Platoon firing attended with some Cannon, occasioned by a number of the enemy sallying out to burn Germantown, which has been spoken of a considerable time, they drove in our Piquett and further I have not heard.—Thus far in the Military way, what next comes under consideration is the studious, in which I am much interrupted by a great recourse of people from the army, however I am devoting as much of my time as possible to that business, and I believe I should find old Homer very hard to digest had I not been so happy as to get the Key with it, which is a a very good instructor and great assistant indeed. Let this as present suffice. I conclude with wishing you success in your studies, and may the Lord bless you with blessings both temporal and spiritual. This is the desire, this shall ever be the prayer of your sincere friend &c.

Simeon Vanartsdalen

N.B. Please to give my respects to both the Mr Demun's and families.
To Messrs Bogart and Lansingh.

XIII

To

Mr. John Bogart Student
at North Branch of Raritan
Rochester February 14. 1778.

Received Feb. 24th. 1778.

My Dear friend

I received your three minutes—Letter and the one you sent with the Revd Mr Hardenbergh; the last came to hand two months after its date. I can assure you it gives me very great Satisfaction when I am favored with a Line from some one of my old friends. If ever I had any Affection for my former Companions you must be con-

vinced that not to hear from them for a long time must create very troublesome thoughts and Anxious concerns. When I am revolving with myself All our old transactions when we were together in the days of Peace And paint to my Imagination the different Characters of my agreeable Associates What Transporting Affections rise from the center of my soul. I received Your Letters with Joy but must confess was a little grieved not to find them quite satisfactory to my Curiosity. I believe your professions of friendship are sincere but have I no more friends in your Quarter? Is it not obvious to the first reflection that A friend must be Solicitous for the Welfare of all his friends? I know not What is become of Good old Simeon I know not What Lansing is About nor do I know in what sphere Mr Taylor is acting I only know that on the 1st. of November one thousand seven hundred and Seventy Seven Mr Bogart was very busy in moving his Quarters Perhaps to the Tories Perhaps to the Realms of Pluto Or for aught I know to take a Journey to the Moon. You tell me you expect to be examined for a Degree; Since I left you I never heard you had any such Creatures as Examinations among you. Pray What is become of Queens-College? The Athenian, the Polemical Societies? Your Conduct seems to intimate that I have no Concern in any of these things—Instead of giving me the Satisfaction you might have done in a few words You make Mighty Demands you desire me to give Accounts Which in all probability will fill a Dozen of Pages in a future folio History. To give you an Answer then As comprehensive as possible I will Write to You As Caesar did *Veni, Vidi, Vici* I make no doubt but your Idea of me whilst I am pronouncing these words is as Swelling as Aesops Frog. However I would not be understood to speak with the Arrogance of A Caesar but put the Expression in the plural and only Say that *We came, we saw, We conquered, we took,* The great and mighty scarecrow of the North With his ten thousand Locusts from the bottomless pit—But to be more serious I can Assure you never has such a Storm threatned our State. Every Inhabitant sat trembling at its Approach till the favour of Providence threw the Enemy into our hands. Burgoine from the North Sir Harry Clinton from the South St. Leger at fort Scuyler to the Westward And Baum at Bennington to the Eastward Intended to crush us in the Center. I Saw the Gloomy prospect my Apprehensions were Alarming indeed but I resolved rather Gloriously to perish in the Tempest than Ignobly to turn my back or Stand an Idle Spectator the Moment the Critical moment big with the fate of My Country, Myself, When Liberty & all, seemed to hang in suspense—But Mark the Changing face of Affairs St. Leger rais'd the Seige, Baum was defeated, Burgoine Was Taken, and Sir Harry retreated. The black thick brewing Storm was Spent in Harmless Thunder. The brave New England Militia deserve to have Eternal Monuments erected to their Honour In A Storm of fury With fix'd Bayonets they destroyed and took the detachment encroaching Upon their Boundaries And in the Battles of Saratoga no Veterans could have outdone them—I don't believe that ever any Army has Appeared in better Spirit than ours Since the Arrival of Gates—but Ten Thousand Curses flew at Scuyler whether Justly or unjustly I wont pretend to determine. I cannot rightly Ascertain the Number of Prisoners &c Taken With Burgoine according to your request—I have had a List but the List is lost This I remember that since they left St John's they have lost 9000 and odd taken and kill'd—I wish my friend You had been at Saratoga When they Surrendered The most glorious grandest Sight America ever beheld or perhaps ever shall see was there to be Seen of which I had the pleasure to be A spectator. It is impossible to give you any Idea of it Unless by a laborious description of particularities But before the surrender in the Battles after the Battles When they were penn'd Up, What Scenes! The Woods on fire, the mountains Belching Smoak and flames The Roaring Artillery Shaking the worlds Around us—I wish I could talk a day with You—I had not the pleasure to be in any of the Engagements We were however at the close of the last battle Within shot of them We heard a few balls Whistle All the Loss our regiment sustained was one man Wounded who is since well The evening obliging us to retreat—Let this suffice for War—Mr Annan I mean Lad I hear is become a flaming[?] Preacher and is gone to N. England—Joy go with him! I long to see You all Let my friends know I have Yet some Regard for them Messrs Taylor Vanartsdalen Lansing Schuurman Dad Van Wyck &c My Compliments to them all I would write to more of my

friends but dont know of any oppertunities to send letters—Tell Mr Taylor I am Infinitely obliged to him for his long Narrative Letter. Let him see this—Dont omit writing—Come by all means in the Spring to see us

I am Dear Friend
Your Sincere Friend
& Humble Servt
Simeon DeWitt

PS. Feb. 20, I am now in)
Hackinsack With the Revd Dr)
Romeyn)

N.B. Be pleased to send an Answer with Niels Roosa the bearer of this

XIV

Mr
John Bogart Junr
Rarington

Pr favour {
Graham }

Sir

I imbrace this Opertunity to Inform you of My Present Sircumstance.— At Present I am in good health Which is A Blessing that None But the Almighty Can bestow and for Which we have Every reson to be thankfull, I have Been At home three Weakes in which time I thought to Spent two or thre Days Agreeably with you on the Bank of the River Rarington. At present We are in Good Spirit in Camp And think that With the Assistance of Heaven we Shall be Able to Borgoyne his Excellency Billy how this Campaign. Our Rifflemen Lay Neer the Middle Jersy on Schoolkiln River, So that they Dare not set there Noses Over but they Are taken Prisoners as we have taken 60 Last Week at one time & 8 or 10 several times Since.

Our Army Increases Verry fast at Present One Regt from the New York State Arivd this Day Consisting of 500 Privates and Seven hundred this Week from Virginia State, the Whole Amount that is Come in from the Different States is Computed to be 2000 And they Continue to Come in Every Day.

Which will Strike our Enemy into A Sad Panick, Some Are of the Opinion that they Are About to Evacate the town as they have Sent Away Some of there Baggage——

Give My Compliments to your family And All friends Aspecialy Mrs Polly.

I am with Respect your Sinclear friend—

To Mr. John Bogart Saml Smith Kaptn
Aprile 27th-1778 5th P. Regt

NB fail not to Wright the first Opertunity—

XV

To
Mr John Bogart Junr
Rariton
New Jersey

Per favour {
of Mr Kroesen }

Northampton, Bucks County,
June 25th 1778

Dear Friend,

Pardon my long delay in writing to you, since it is not owing to disaffection, but want of convenient oppertunity, and other occurrences of various kinds, that have happened in a time so critical as we in this quarter have of late experienced. It is a melancholy thought, that scarce a man who was friendly to the American cause could think himself safe in his own house, but was forced to abandon it and repair to the woods for lodgings, to avoid being taken, not as a Soldier in the field, but as a felon in the dark

seences of the Night, and not by Britons from whom it might be expected, but by the savage brood of our own Country who had fled to the enemy for refuge, and then became instrumental in captivating their countrymen and Neighbours, and that with so much valour as to make an attack on them when in bed asleep, several have been dragged from home in that manner who are now taken off by the enemy. Thus have the intrepid Refugees Distinguished themselves.

I am glad to hear that now you have finished your academical studies, you are willing to take others by the hand and lead them through the rugged road of Science. May heaven smile upon your endeavours, and grant you success in your important undertaking!

I should be glad to hear from you and other friends, especially whether Mr. Lansingh is perfectly recovered, for I have not heard from him or any of you since your Letter of 20th. May.

The bearer is waiting therefore I forbear enlarging. I expect to see you, tho perhaps not before Harvest, unless you should come over with which I should be well pleased. Remember me to all friends. I am yours &c.

S. Vanartsdalen

XVI

To
Mr John Bogart
Raritan

N Brunswick July 27th 1778

Dr. Sir

I should be sorrow you should impute my neglect of writing to want of affection I can only apologize for my conduct by the disorder of the times in which I have had my share. From this cause has arose almost a total inattention to the duties of social Life: But if we may be permitted to enjoy a short breathing-spell I trust the gloomy cloud contracted by a continued series of interruption in the more refined enjoyments of Society will be expelled & the Mind become susceptible of the Rays of friendship—It has been & again is my misfortune to take up my pen in a hurry occasioned by the shortness of time the bearer continues here.

Let this therefore serve to keep up a correspondence which I hope for the future will not need so many apologies. "A friend should bear a friends infirmities"

Regulate not your conduct by mine Write and when I neglect to correspond write again for beleive me I have a disinterested regard. Give my respects to Messrs. Lanning & Taylor & your Mother's family

I am Sir affectionately
Your.

Schureman

XVII

For
Mr Jno. Bogart
North Branch

N. Brunswick

Dr Sir

I receivd yours last night—acknowledge the negligence with which you accuse me & heartily ask your pardon—should be glad you would perform your promise to visit Cranberry where I will have time to apologize—I am just ready to leave the town but seeing Mr. Taylor detains me long enough to write this & promise to answer yours the first opportunity.

I remain sincerely,

Sunday evening }

Yours Schureman

XVIII

John Bogart
Raritan

Dear Friend

It is now about 10 o'clock P.M. and I must write a Letter to you—Tomorrow Morning at 8 o'clock A.M. Mr Minne Voorhees who Quarters About Two Mile from here is going off & and I intend to Send this Letter with him If I am in a hurry and write Nonsense to you—Please to Excuse me upon that Account—Well sir now I will tell you all about the Matter—but first I must beg a thousand Pardons for not continuing our correspondence, so happily begun, for so long a time as since the last of—I don't know What Month it is I believe it is December When I got your Letter—Well Sir as I was going to tell you now I will tell you All About the Matter—You know how Old Tantalus was Placd up to his Mouth in the Water and could never Drink—last July I was At Brunswick but had no time to see you Ever since that I have been now here & then there It is now ten O Clock and I must Quit writing what I intended & So I wish you a Good Night

Simeon DeWitt

Fredericksborough }
Octr 8. 1778 }

My Compliments to all friends Lansing Van Arts Dalen Bogart Van Wyck &c. &c.

Jno. Bogart.

N.B The English & French have had an Engagement in Which the former were worsted by Sea in Europe.

XIX

Mr. John Bogert
Raritan

N Branch of Raritan July 2d 1779.—

Dr. Sir

In consequence of a letter received from Eliz:Town I am under the necessity of going off to morrow morning to take the command at that Post.—By the Bearer I have sent your Horse for the use of which I am much obliged to you. I returned yesterday as far as to Raritan where I stopped before it began to rain, Mr. Blauvelt informed me that he could not go on your intended Tour, and the rain continuing I concluded to lodge there, judging you would not want your Horse.—As Tutor of Queen's College and Lt. Colonel of the State Regiment I desire you will parade next monday morning at the N Branch and do me the favour, and your Country service by taking care of the students. I have mentioned the matter to several of the Trustees, and they appear to be perfectly satisfied with your undertaking the business, and the students are well contented with it.—Mr. V arsdalen will return I expect sometime in august when you will set him at natural Philosophy but I expect to see you before that time—The sophomore Class are reading Euclid, I would advise that they read the Three first Books before vacation and the third Book of Xenophon. I think it will be best to set them at Xenophon half the Day, let their lessons be short, and particular attention paid to grammar, I judge it will be best to construe their lessons;—Messrs. Blauvelt, Smith & Bray should study whole numbers in arithmetic, and V Wyck Logic. I will leave a Compend of arithmetic with V Wyck, I have spoke to Mr. Eastburn in Brunswick to procure for me three Blank books for them to write Arithmetic which you will send for if you please;—Bray is behind in Euclid, I would therefore advise that he be kept at it the whole time while the others read Xenophon, he has read the third book of Xenophon. I have spoken to Mr. Brinson to make a blackboard, and have procured lamp black, you will hurry him on, and get Col D Vroom to paint it.—and keep an account of the expence.

Mr. Remsen is reading Geography I think it best for him to go thro ; it and then review it, and study the Introduction which he omitted when he began Geography, after he has done with that let him study English Grammar, you will find a Compend in the old Chest, or in the closet, you will make any other additions to it you shall see fit, for assistance I would reccommend to you Johnston's Dictionary, & South's Grammar—Messrs. Courtlandt & Crook are reading Virgil & Greek Grammar, I did not intend they should read above 3 Eniads before they began to review the Eclogues & Cicero—V Harligen & Stewart are reading Greek Grammar, I would advise to keep them at it untill they have got it, and then let the four begin Greek, and review Latin together, be pleased to hurry them on in Greek.—

I expect to see you in a few weeks, and to relieve you at Vacation

My Friend for the present I bid you adieu

By subscribing myself sincerely yours

Jn. Taylor

NB. you can get a Xenophon of Mr. Patterson.—

XX

To
Mr. John Bogart
North Branch
of Raritan

Dear Sir

Tomorrow morning a Soldier whose time is out is going to Pennsylvania gladly I embrace the Oppertunity to Send a letter to my old friend—We are now in Quarters at New Windsor & live very well, but I Would Prefer the North Branch nevertheless because there are a Parcel of Clever fellows there besides we are here in A Wild woody rocky hilly country I have been cursing the mountains ever since we came to this place because they tire me so much in travelling over them We have Survey'd nothing but the Paths and Passes on them—I have wore a piece off my toe in Walking too much it smarted yesterday very much but to day he Seems well enough- - - You have heard of the Pretty flogging we have given the Enemy at Stony Point for some of the Particulars I refer You to a Letter I have Wrote to Coll. Taylor—The Enemy seem undetermined What to go About and are Loitering away their time about the North River Our fort is Getting Stronger every day His Excellency is at W. Point himself & a great Part of the Army- - - Sir I wish you would write to as often as Oppertunities permit I don't get any Letters from any of My old friends I believe I am Entirely forgot If this is the Case I wish You Would let me know So that I may forget them too- - -

I am Sir Your most

Obsequious

Simeon DeWitt

July 25th. 1779

New Windsor

P,S, give my Compliments to that pretty girl
To Jno. Bogart Esqr

XXI

John Bogart
North Branch of
Raritan.

Pr Express

Albany 2 August 1779

Dear Sir

I return you my sincere thanks for sending your compliments to me in Mr. Blauvelt's letter nothwithstanding I had not wrote to you it was no failure of friendship for

I resolved to write by Mr. Light but in his return from Halfmoon he would not stay one night with me I hope you'll not mind these little puntilio's let this be a proof of my friendship that I embrace this opportunity at this hour in which I have a vomit ready to take for my bodily indisposition I have nothing new to transmit only that last week we heard that thirty six men of Col Van Schayick Regt. were taken by the Indians within sight of Fort Schuyler permit me to congratulate you with the success of our Arms in taking Stony point from the Enemy Oh that it might please the Lord to bless America with victory and peace I must brake of for it is high time to take my puke my compliments to your family & Mr. and Mrs. Dumon Mr. Taylor and all friends I am your most humble servant

Nicholas Lansingh

P.S. Excuse my excessive haste Mr. Lansingh has made no tour to venus yet and I hope he will be prudent enough not to venture as yet on such an important affair—

XXII

Mr. John Bogart
North Branch
of Raritan

Pr favour of }
Capt McMurray }

Dear Sir

I insist upon it—If what you say is true I have hitherto acted consistent with myself—It is not the first time You have honored me with the name of a queer fellow and sometimes too a confounded queer fellow—Inconsistencies make the Actions of a queer fellow consistent with his Character—Your Inscription you proposed for Your Letter is not good—I Disapprove of it for these Reasons

1st. I am not always travelling.

2d. When I do travel I do not travel along all the Roads & bypaths in the States of N York & New Jersey

3d. When I do travel I do not always carry the Compass with me sometimes the men Carry it for me.

4th. It is not always the case that my big toe stiks out of my shoe

5th. The Expression *Grin* ought to be *Stare*

You may Mend it & put it in this form if you please—"Mr Letter You are to take the nearest rout to the Grand American Army Where people live in Houses of Canvass & carry in their hands the Instruments of Death—There you are to take a Circumbendibus About the Verge of them till You Come to where one Mr Erskine quarters Enter in & you'll find a confused heap of papers variegated with squares triangles Circles paralellograms & what not, then halt, till a queer fellow seises hold of you Rips open your body & like an Egyptian Augur Examines your Entrails afterwards lays you aside like an odd Mummy in future days to divert himself with"

I have seen Mr Staggs - - - - - If you are meant by J.B. Remember the Speech of the Royal Oak If you think yourself entitled to that privilege inscribe Your name- - - Sir I do not understand French; what is en passant? News- - -

Count Delstaign they say is on his way to Georgia & New York to play the D- - -I with the Lads there

I am Dear Sir

Your friend but not humbl Servt.

Simeon DeWitt

I most forgot to tell you that I have been to Albany and there seen Old Nicky he is studying away Like fury—he Show'd me a Letter from You & likewise one from Mr. Blawvelt I would be glad to know if he Calls Miss C. Vreedenburgh Properly Miss Light- - - I

Expect in a few Days to set out on a Journey thro Connecticut Which will take me About A month

Sir Please to Give my Compliments to all the Members of the Athenian Society—
Capt Scull Sends his Compliments to You Van Wyck & Taylor--
no more—

XXIII

Dear Sir

This may serve to let you know that I am in good health hoping these few lines may find you in the same—You see sir I have nothing to go in but an old track beaten a thousand years ago in fact I have nothing worth writing at all, at such time You must expect a sheet or a page filled with words without signification In the same manner as Mr Spec. says people talk without thinking—For these three weeks past Whoever I went to see or whoever came to see me Opened the conversation with the important Intelligence, that the weather was very cold and the snow remarkably deep tho no one could go three Inches from the door but had both Occular and sensible demonstrations of it therefore sir in compliance to the custom I give it you as a piece of the most important news we have for a long time had that it has been amazing cold to such a Degree that I who never yet flinched to old Boreas had t'other day one of my Ears froze as hard as a Pine gnot we have or will have noble slaying—the other day (I mean night) we tumbled over two slay load of Ladies helter skelter head over heels into the snow—As we are not far distant now and the going excellent You can Easily with a party of your own chusing Come to see us We can entertain you with a drink of Grog if no more Pray sir what is become of Johnny Taylor I have not heard or seen any thing of him for a long time I must accuse him a little of negligence carelessness or something else Be so good as to tell him that unless he sends me word whether he is in this or t'other world I will give him a dash in my Books—I have not yet for certain heard where You have made your place of Residence whether at Brunswick Millstone or Raritan—We are now settled at Morristown very cleverly where I expect we shall continue during the Winter—And pass the time As agreably as we can-- You know Mr. Tim Ford he and I have got accidentally acquainted with each other And amuse ourselves by speaking composing playing on the flute—Smoking together Walking &c.—&c &c. &c &c Give my Compliments to all the Athenian Boys & take this for a Rough hurry piece

From Your most Obt. humble cum tumble

Simeon DeWitt

Jany 10-80

Morristown

John Bogart

XXIV

Mr Jeremiah Smith, Student
Millstone

N. Branch March 1, 1780—

Dear Sir.

I much regret that I hapened not to be at home the afternoon you call'd to see me, yet should not have accepted of it for a visit, since you designed to stay only a few minutes. You are exceedingly welcome to the books for which you made application, and for any other you may desire if in my power to lend. I should have written before now if the traveling had not been so very bad that I despaired of a Letter reaching you, and indeed it still grows worse, last night a body of ice came down and lodged upon the causey so that we who live on this side the river can have no intercourse with you on the other side. You need not expect me before the riding grows better, and if you wait till I send the books by some oportunity without you can get some person to call for

them I am apprehensive that you will have to wait still longer as I scarce ever have such an opportunity. I shall be very glad of your correspondence, and expect that I shall hear from you when any favourable turn presents, Please to remember me to Mr. Taylor, and all the brotherhood, I am dear Sir affectionately

Yours

John Bogart

March 7th.

At present I live almost as recluse as an hermit. I sometimes almost envy that happiness, which you enjoy of conversing with rational beings who have Sentiment to entertain and divert when you have leisure and inclination to discourse. The reverse is my Situation, when weary of pouring over books, and talking with the dead, when my mind would return from the severer Studies in which I am engaged and pants for relaxation, I must still pursue the same beaten track of walking solitary without an individual who can communicate any thing rational and pleasing. When a person is thus circumstanced it is more than probable that he may contract habits, which, when he emerges into Society may be detrimental to his usefulness. He who spends that time when gesture is to be softened into ease, and manners polished into gracefulness in the dust of Libraries, and converse with past generations, will find when he comes into the world, that he will be deficient in many essentials which make the agreeable and entertaining companion. And altho he may have hoarded up a considerable store of book knowledge, yet he will discover that to constitute the gentleman there is something in manners which cannot be dispensed with; that his language is too obsolete for his cotemporaries. He will also observe when he endeavours to please he will often disgust, and that his own sentiment when express'd by others in different language will more affect and please an audience. Rusticity is certainly no virtue and it naturally has a tendency to disgust, but Politeness always conciliates affection, and if united to wisdom and virtue it ever commands respect. To acquire these accomplishments our Athenian Society was instituted and it certainly has a great tendency to purge the incorrect in our discourse, and also to give us a certain dignity of behaviour, which has a great influence on the wise and judicious of our own Sex. But as we must necessarily have communion with the other half of our Species, and we have a strong natural propensity to please them, you must often have observed with myself that these accomplishments make but very slight impression and that a very different conduct is necessary to gain their esteem. Whether it is owing to something in their very constitution; or arises from a principle of Self Love, and a fondness of adulation which approves of everything that seems to imitate themselves, that the finical and vain are their peculiar favourites. I will not take upon me to determine But this I think is undeniable that a gay dress a few trite old sayings which have been the standard phrases of low wit, and as Doct. Swift in his polite conversations says have been common these hundred Years, and a little

XXV

Mr John Bogert Jur.

North Branch

Millstone March 9, 1780—

Dr. Friend.

You have not yet fulfilled your promise, of spending a few days at this place.—I did intend to have paid you a visit before this time, but the storms and mud have hitherto prevented.—Mr. Smith will be with you this week and who will then open the Budget; you will not get a word of it from me I do assure you, Curiosity I dare say, begins to ask what is contained in it, I have promised secrecy; But I have something to request of you, in favour of Mr. Betran respecting his son—Mr. Betran hath applied to me to teach his son, but he not having studied any of the Languages, and there being not any here of the same standing, I have declined, he then mentioned Mr. Bogert, and desired I would write a line to you upon the subject—Mr. Betran will see you, I will

therefore only give you my opinion upon it; I do imagine you might do it without any disadvantage to yourself, for the little time necessary to be spent with him will not draw off your attention from your present employment; but will be a recreation and amusement and prevent you from killing yourself before your time by too close application.—However I submit it to yourself.

& remain Dr. Sir

your Jno. Taylor.—

To Mr. Bogert.

XXVI

A.G.B.
Gram.Blum

Mr. John Bogart—
student
North Branch of
Raritan

Albany May 8th: 1780

Dear Sir

Since my last I have not received any of your letters whether the distance has eradicated me from your affections; or that you are so confined to your studies I know Not the reason why my friend has not wrote. I received a letter from Mr. Taylor who informed me that you are engaged in the study of divinity. It gives me great pleasure to hear that my friend has chosen that particular study which I had in view even when I begun the lattin Grammer. O that it might please the Lord to give us grace and wisdom to be in his appointed time and way, true & faithful Ministers, of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that we may be means in the hands of God for the conversion of sinners and establishing the Lord's people in their most holy faith. Permit me my friend to advise you to live prayerful, be much upon your knees & with Mary at Christ's feet; forget not to read the word of God daily let that book be often in your hands and it's precious thoughts in your head. Seek the company of lively Christians for there you may learn from the experiences of others which may be of singular service for Ministers to enliven the souls of the Lord's people. I have nothing new to transmit from this quarter. I conclude with wishing you success in your studies & the blessings of the everlasting Gospel of the amiable Jesus. I am your friend & humble Servant

Nicholas Lansingh

P:S: Pardon the first sentiments of my heart as our family are a waiting for family worship it's past ten o clock at night. be pleased to give my compliments to your The Revd. Hardenbergh's & Mr. Dumonts families—

XXVII

How d' you do Sir

I hope you are well

Pray what's the Reason I have not heard from You All Winter—I wrote you a Letter last fall and told you I was then Settled at Morristown Where I would be glad to see you—I Would perhaps have paid You a Visit before Now since the Roads became good but When the French Ambassador was here My horse got so frightened At the Sound of Cannon and the smell of Gunpowder that he took a Start and I have not heard of his making A Halt till this Very hour I wish you would come and see us you dont know what pretty Girls there are About this Place——— Sir it is a sad condition to write when a person does not know what to begin Upon I have Just Perus'd a letter which I will send to Mr. Taylor I find I have put down in that most of what I can think About Unless, I was to connect this letter to the End of his then perhaps I might spin out that chain of thinking I was upon for when I once undertake to write my thoughts

as they happen I find there is no way of quiting without breaking off Abruptly—but it is no Easy matter to introduce Matters of a different nature without being Guilty of Inelgance but sir I dont write to show you the excellency of my performance I only want to Manufacture something that shall look a little like An Epistle If the contents of it should be neither more nor Less than simple Nonsense—Desipere in loco, there is some pleasure in perusing the thoughts of an Absent friend—In What ridiculous posture that little ape Fancy will Contort its features And exhibit a Number of Curious Gestures Entertaining if not instructive I intended to write only one page And behold I have turned over a leaf—You may take my letter now and thro it into the fire Unless
 * * * * * for I sincerely believe the Rest will not be worth reading Now sir I have done for I am not sensible of any two Idea's embracing each other in my brain If there were any I would Immediately set about delineating their features—Confound the Drum! it has drawn off my Attention from everything I intended to say—I believe in my soul it is captain Vanhorn coming with the Guard—he is a very clever fellow he told me t'other day he was intimately acquainted with you—he plays very well on the Violin—I got a fiddle about three weeks ago & Learn'd to play two or three tunes on it I intend to become perfect in it if I can—but I have so much upon hand between Amusements and business that My thought are never at a stand Or languish for the want of Exercise With Musick, drawing, Drafting, Writing, reading, Walking, Conversing, sometimes dancing, Singing etc. my hours insensibly slip away nor leave me any room to be Ruminating upon Difficulties Distresses & future Events and by this means contract the Dismals about me—I often Wonder how people of sense & Education can Dam themselves to Eternal Misery by devoting their time to Idleness and a Uniform series of insipid Entertainments If ever I am inactive it is When I stand in an Equipoise between two Attractive bodies But am soon determind sometimes the interposition of a third decides the Matter—

(Pray Sir How do you like all
 (this stuff it comes from Your
 old friend

Morristown

May 8- 80

Jno.Bogart

Simeon DeWitt

Whip me if I take the pains to peruse it or revise it

XXVIII

John Bogart Student
 North Branch of
 Raritan.

Albany, June 3rd. 1780

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 20th May I have recieved, I am glad to understand that you were charmed with the pleasing aspect of spring when but a little before the vegetable world was apparently dead now again adorns nature: Oh that it were the happy case with the Lord's people who have lost that tenderness of spirit which they once possessed: but alas! now are become like the earthen pitchers, I hope my friend you will not think that I imagine this to be the case with all the truly Godly; Nay I hope there are some in this distressed Country who live near the Lord tho' unknown to us; however it is too much the case with the Lord's people with whom I am, and have been, for some time acquainted, O that it might please the Lord to hasten the glorious days of the Church when thousands shall be born in Sion in a day and converts be multiplied as drops of morning dew. I long to see the day but would wish to wait patiently the Lord's time which will always be best; may you and I be of that happy number who pray that Christ Kingdom may be built upon the ruins of Satan's. I thank you Sir for your kind advice with respect to my studies it is true as you observe that a person ought to make an estimate of his abilities before he enters in the ministerial office, as deism begins to run thro' this land as a torrent, and irreligion gains ground apace But let not any thing

deter a person to Step forth in the name of the Lord of hosts the God in whose hands our breath is to declare the counsils of God. Consider my friend the words of our blessed Lord Matt. 28:20 verse lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the World. A great promise to the Ministers of the Gospel. I hope if it pleases the Lord to offer myself next fall for examination by the advice of my teacher Mr. Westerloo O that it might please the Lord to give me grace and wisdom to be well prepared. Last Week Sir John Johnson with about three or four hundred British & Hessian troops and Tories and two hundred Indians have burnt Cagnawaga about forty miles from this place to the Westward along the Mohawk River & killed about ten Men. Our Governor Clinton went in pursuit of them with some of the Militia we have not heard of him since only that he had hopes of overtaken Johnson & his party before they reached Lake Champlain what the event will be time will learn. My compliments to yourself & family and all friends. Jacob Staats lives with his father on his farm I cannot learn that he does any thing else but is employed in the farming business. I am Sir your friend & humble Servant Nicholas Lansingh

XXIX

Mr. John Bogart Junr.
North Branch
of
Raritan—

Hillsborough, June 5th. 1780.—

Dear Sir,

Not only duty but inclination induce me to write. I acknowledge I am indebted to you, and hope you will not impute my long delay in answering you to any indifference in renewing the correspondence mentioned in your last.—It is certainly to be regretted that those (I mean the Dutch divines in Holland) who made such great proficiency in the sacred science of Theology, with a total neglect of the study of nature, should endeavour to confute the most convincing arguments of others who have devoted their whole attention to the discovery of the mysteries of nature, and made the truth thereof appear upon the most obvious principles of sound Philosophy. That these men I say, should presume to disannul such pressing arguments, and that only from the literal meaning of the terms used in scripture which thro' the condescension of the supreme being were undoubtedly intended to represent divine things to men of the meanest capacities, is truly to be lamented, and the more so because their writings on Divinity and experimental religion might be of more extensive use to the learned world in general if these little prejudices were removed.—

Your complaint concerning the endangered state of *Shins* during the last winter is very just, and the truth of it was confirmed to me by sad experience, for mine were blotched with colours (or mixtures of colours just as you please) of almost as many kinds as those original ones which adorn the Rainbow in the cloud. I happened to have a pair of old Shin-Curtains in the house and had some thoughts of repairing to them for relief, but upon considering that a pair of boots would better answer the purpose of both fire and snow, I accordingly made use of them. I was at that time very attentively engaged in the two first volumes of Martin, and was often with my pipe in one hand, and with the other supporting my head inclining on a table, and eyes fixed directly towards the fire, ruminating on what I had just been studying, and philosophizing in my own mind on the nature and cause of culinary fire the effect of which I was continually feeling—It is a common phrase that fire is hotter in cold weather than at any other time, and well it may, since the greater density of the air confines the ignitious particles to a smaller compass, their effect upon a body must certainly be greater than when it is warmer and of course more rare, as it then permits them to diffuse themselves and occupy a larger space. And since the power of burning is directly as the density of the heat and inversely as the distance from it, it is no wonder that our *Shins* are in such great danger in cold weather, for the great density of the circumambient air urges our bodies within this ardent sphere that the lower part receives the wound before the upper

is sensible of it, and in my opinion this is the reason that we are obliged to wear chequered Shins so much as we do.—So much for Shins.—

Having studied the first volumes of Nat. Philosophy, I expect in a few days to begin upon the turning part, and it is probable that with the Planets my *Sensorium kaputis* may undergo not only a diurnal rotation, but a menstrual and annual revolution, and whether it be spherical or elliptical provided it keeps within a regular orbit I hope I shall be satisfied. I think I am so far void of prejudice as cheerfully to acquiesce in the opinions of those who by the learned are applauded for their deep penetration and profound knowledge, and who have evinced their sentiments by arguments as clear as demonstration can afford.—

I might answer your letter more fully, but as it is lying in a Desk near forty miles distance I cannot now lay it before me perhaps some part may therefore be omitted. However, I shall expect another as soon as time and convenience shall permit you to write. It affords me much happiness to receive letters from friends and especially those from persons of literature, the former are useful and friendly, but the latter are very improving in sentiment and style which is an advantage not to be expected from a "This comes to let you know &c" of the vulgar.—

I expected to go to the Branch to see you last Saturday in the Waggon with Mr. Simonson, but as he did not come I was prevented.

A Letter bearing date the 8th. May came to my hand this day from Mr. Lansingh, he is engaged in the study of Divinity and the Hebrew tongue.—

With due respect I subscribe

myself yours affectionately—

Simeon Vanartsdalen—

P.S. You say a Postscript is customary, I know it often is, therefore to avoid singularity I shall comply with the custom and give you a good long one. When I read your Letter for uncle John Kroesen I did it with as much nature as I thought the expressions required, and as was in my power, and especially when I came near the words *zo dan* where I intended to make a little stop, which as soon as I did, zo- - -says he, upon which I could not command my risible faculty, the *dan* stuck by the way and was not quite pronounced.—

XXX

Mr. John Bogart
N. Branch of
Raritan

Dear friend

I am Just now packing up for Moving & intend to start in the morning for West Point The North River it is expected will again be the seat of war the ensuing Campaign.—I would give you a Detail of What has happen'd in this quarter of the Jerseys had not you an Opportunity of hearing the particulars as much at least as is generally known, I had the Pleasure of seeing Johnny Taylor about Springfield some time ago likewise little Frelinghuysen And others Of my N Branch Acquaintances—The Jersey Militia have Distinguished themselves in a singular Manner upon the Occasion And every One gives them the praises they have Justly merited Should the Enemy have presumption enough to lead them to an Attack upon our Works in the Highlands You Will hear of Bloody Noses They have last Friday experienced the resoluteness of our Troops tho only a small detachment sufficient to give them a sample of what they may expect.

After this if you condescend to write A line to me you may Direct to near Head Qrs I suppose not far from N. Windsor- - - Timony Ford has got a couple of Clever Marks to show for his Patriotism. . He is not quite recovered yet tho his Wounds are mending You will have an opportunity of Congratulating him in the Letter You promised to write to him in Answer to his.

I have no time at present to give you a Dissertation Upon the Embracing or Coition Conjunction Sex and Copulation of Ideas As No Other but my friend Bogart could at this

time have extorted a few minutes from me for the scribbling you are now perusing As you know before a Move. Preparations engross the whole of our time & attention Give my best compliments to Van Wyck Van Artsdalen, Cortland, Blauwvelt, &c &c &c and All my Acquaintances But not to Taylor as he Abominates Every resemblance of formality

I am Yours Affectionately
& forever (in a hurry

S DeWitt

Moristown
June 26- 80
Mr Jno Bogart

XXXI

Mr John Bogart
N. Branch

N. Branch Aug'st 14th. 1780

Dr Sir

I send this to apologize for not spending this Evening with you agreeable to promise—Nothing would have given me greater pleasure, but I am in such a hurry now to return to Wallkill that I must postpone it till I come back—You will perhaps ask in some surprise, what threw me into this violent hurry—well sir this is it—The Domine is obliged to be at Esopus about the middle of September and to attend the Dutch Synod the first Wednesday of Octbr—there is also, (or likewise, just which you please) a necessity for a meeting of the Trustees before the Domine sets out—now to prevent the trouble of another meeting after our examination for the purpose of conferring degrees they have wisely concluded it best to examine Mr. VnArtsdalen and myself the day preceeding the meeting of the Trustees which is friday the 8 of Sept. so you see that I have little more than three weeks to prepare for examination—I am at a loss respecting a Diploma—I have no Parchment nor do I know where to get any—if you know of any—you would oblige me much if you would procure it for me and prepare it for signing—Your books I have left at Mr. Taylor's if you should not need them till my return. I will then (as is my duty) bring them to your own house I am greatly obliged to you for the use of them and am sorry that my future situation in life will in all probability put it out of my power to make you a suitable return for these and every other favour conferred upon Dr Sir

your sincere friend &c J Smith

Mr John Bogart {

XXXII

Mr John Bogart Junr
North-Branch of
Rariton

Northampton, Bucks County,
Nov. 13th. 1780.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 14th. Oct. favoured by Mr. DeWitt needs no apology. You seem to be apprehensive of wearying my patience in reading your three pages filled with a *jumble of words* as you express it. Let not the thought enter your mind, for experience has often evinced that several hours can be spent very agreeably in subjects in themselves little worth. When I receive a letter from a friend I open it and reason thus "Now I am going to enjoy the company of my friend to hear him communicate something to me, and altho' he has not any thing very important to transmit, yet he will say something

in this method of conversation which will be both satisfactory and entertaining." In my opinion writing for writing's sake is preferable to not writing at all. therefore I hope you will say no more about wearying my patience with scribbling. Friendship you say is of a very delicate nature, that subsisting between us is I hope more strong and permanent than to be wounded by an epistle not quite so replete with noble sentiments and learned expressions.

As for news I must observe with you that I have none unless I also give you something about Arnold, which is as follows, I lately saw a figure of the effgies that were paraded through the streets of Philadelphia where there is a representation of Arnold and his old friend the Devil, who were together mounted on a cart and exhibited to public view, as a detestation of his infamous conduct in forming a diabolical plot to betray his country by means of that which may justly be styled an accursed avarice, that tool in the hands of Satan by which he decoys many persons to their inevitable ruin.

Young Mr. Light has accepted a call from this place and is expected to move this week.

Since I left Jersey I have devoted such of my time as was not taken up in recreation and exercise to the perusal of approved authors, but that to which my attention is most principally led in a systematical way is Marck.

I expect to spend the winter at home, and next spring again to return to Jersey which to me has been the mother of science.

I shall not conclude with making excuses for writing no more, but come to a period in silence before I arrive at the bottom, and so subscribe myself yours &c

Simeon Vanartsdalen

P.S. Mrs: Vanartsdalen and others of
the family join in compliment
ing you, your mother and sister.

Mr. John Bogart

XXXIII

To Mr. John Bogart,
North Branch

Northampton, Bucks County,
March 28th. 1781.

Dear Sir,

* * * * *

It is currently reported that there has been a severe engagement between the french and british fleets in the Cheasapeak, but no particulars are yet come to hand altho we expect them in this day's papers. There is now also a flying report that Cornwallis and his army are made prisoners, but this wants confirmation.

I return you thanks Sir, for your benevolent expressions relative to my son, but as I do not pretend to any skill in Physiognomy, Astrology, Necromancy or fortune telling I shall forbear prognosticating any future events. However since you desire to know what kind of a phyz he has, I shall endeavour to give you as true an information as I possibly can. His visage is round and full, his countenance pleasant, his eyes rolling, brisk and lively, and forehead bold from which if I should form a conjecture and answer your demand, it would be that his aspect appears military and precludes the soldier.—It would give me pleasure to see my friend come and form his own judgment since he might obtain a much better idea from sight, than I can give him in writing.—I am dear Sir, with great esteem your

friend and humble servant

Simeon Vanartsdalen

P.S. * * * * *

XXXIV

Mr. John Bogart
Student of Divinity
at

Raritan

Hon. Pr {
Mr. Tenbroeck }

North branch

N. Windsor May 8th. 1781

Dear Sir

Have you not sometimes When free from the Calls of ordinary business felt yourself in a strange kind of a mood your thoughts slowly moving from one subject to another your inclination equally balanced between every object that may chance to hit the Imagination, A thousand times resolving on something and as often rejecting what fancy proposes or suddenly drawn off by something more Alluring in appearance, And if you begin with any thing for instance writing a Letter—before you proceed beyond a dozen of Lines find a languor in the Animal Spirits which tempts the pen to drop from the hand or the hand to throw it down and yourself to Curse your stupidity—If you have ever experienced this you may form a pretty good Idea of my feelings at this time—perhaps I have begun a task of all others the most improper to be undertaken at present I call it a task because in such a humor the most agreeable employment is Irsome to me. To such changes whilst we are human we must expect to remain subject, I am sorry tho it is but rarely the case with me it should just happen whilst I am composing an epistle to A friend, but it will derive some Apology from the consideration that in the most listless intervals of life we commonly embrace that which is most likely to engage our thoughts with some thing pleasing And I have always found in writing to a friend My spirits invigorated by the recognition of instances which placed us once nighest to that point of happiness our frail natures admit us to reach—Whos that!

May 9th

Wonderfull wonder of wonders! who do you think interrupted me Just I had so far finished the Above preamble to my Epistle—I am quite another man my Spirits are afloat guess ay! and guess a thousand times in Vain You will not find the Cause. Just as the subject I was writing upon led my Ideas back to days of old and recalled to my memory those scenes which we cannot reflect upon without being sensible of a real and refined pleasure—Just as the Images of my old companions were raisd and presented to my imagination in the Various Characters which once they conjointly Acted behold Just at this very moment turning about I was struck with a figure standing on the floor wrapt up in a great Coat a little cocked hat resting on the root of his nose half covering his eyes and in a tone half way between admiration and Joy salutes me with Dear Sirs! Surprising! Is it possible! I had scarce recovered from the surprise which this Appearance and exclamation had created in me when I recollected the well known features of our old friend Annan. The very same Lad, You may easily how overjoyed I was at the sight of him, he staid with me till this day after dinner and set off for his brothers who lives about fifteen miles from here—We had a long talk with each other and raised the ghosts of all our former transactions he is as droll if not droller than ever full of Laugh and Jocularity, his Air his Manner and Phiz. are all the same as formerly tho Rather a little more masculine—Old fellow I will tell you What, I have not had A letter from You since last fall or last winter dated on the Banks of the River Styx—pray why don't you give us any of your Penny post papers I liked your specimen vastly my Compliments to all friends—I am sir sincerely

NB Annan Stays 4 or 5)

Yours

Weeks with his brother—)

S: DeWitt

P:S: Did not you and Taylor receive a letter from me dated Last winter at Morristown—There is Very little News with us—They say Sir Harry and Knyphausen have embarked with a fleet from New York and sailed out at the Hook—Where And What the Operations of the Campaign will be is yet out of the Reach of Conjecture—Money money money

the want of it is a Clog to our movements And I am afraid will too much influence the Effects of our exertions—We now know it by sad experience to be the sinews of War—And I fear On this Account we will be longer kept from the field than will be consistent with the safety of the Country—America is running mad and seem to put confidence in nothing. I believe the petition of Old Charon or some Other of the Infernals has had too great an Influence—Justice patriotism and Charity are fled Avarice sordid Avarice has swallowed us up Instead of gratitude and rewards. The Army the benefactors of the Country Meet with neglect—Our rulers are not to blame every measure that Wisdom can devise has been adopted but Corruption like the plague has almost without discrimination infected all ranks of men—At the front of which place the traders—I am still in my old employment supplying the place of the late Mr Erskin

S.D—

XXXV

Mr. John Bogart
Raritan

Camp near Dobb's Ferry Augt. 1st: 1781

My Dear friend

I am almost ashamed that I have not answered your Letter sooner—I might enumerate several reasons by way of apology but between friends it is unnecessary formality. You see where we now are, in a Country which bears the melancholy Vestiges of War; The whole is almost one vast common in which Weeds, Briars and grass promiscuously cover its surface and not a creature to disturb its growth before the Arrival of the Army; not a hand to cut down the overgrown meadows except in a very few places. Even the high ways were lost and not to be known but by the Ruins of the stone fences which formed the lane—What cruel changes does the destructive hand of war make where ever it approaches! In the emphatic language of scripture The land mourns. . . The Joyfull husbandman is no more seen pursuing, with pleasure in his countenance, his dayly labors; and with those of the inhabitants Who still remain we find not that plenty stored which formerly made them the happiest of men—Their hard earned property, the little provision they had made to Render the days of old age comfortable has been wrested from them by their friends and Enemies—Wealthy families after having Fathers, brothers, husbands taken from them have By tears and entreaties retained the last cow for their subsistence—These my friend are the Circumstances of this Country, What hearts of Steel must the authors of the war have Or how Void of rational reflection. After a train of thoughts on this subject we are ready to exclaim—Is there not some chosen curse some hidden thunder in the stores of heaven to blast those wretches who seek their greatness by their country's Ruin, When we consider how the harmless and innocent groan under their sufferings unreleived and how the infamous great those monsters in creation who wring from the toils of the poor that wealth which supports them in the high ways of debauchery and in the society of hell. I say when we consider how these pass with impunity and meet with prosperity whilst the oppressed innocent remain unnoticed and unredressed, The Idea of a day of Account in some future period irresistably forces itself upon us- - -What a Jubilee would it create if the war should once Come to a period, I think we are pretty well prepared to taste the sweets of peace and I hope the policy of England will direct him whose Conduct is a burlesque on the title of most gracious majesty to adopt measures for accomplishing that desirable object—My dear friend I would be very happy to see you to enjoy that familiar chat which is the essence of Social pleasure and the life of friendship Epistolary intercourse is but a barren substitute—The Ideas are often, from the frame of Mind, tinctured with a Languishment and nothing to give springs to it as in Conversation. I wish Matters were so that I could be again planted in domestic life in a Circle of choice friends to whom I could retire when tired with business and discuss such Matters serious or diverting as would be most suitable to the occasion—But we must wait with patience the return of those Halcyon Days—We yet please our selves with the prospect of getting

into New York. such an event would be a considerable step towards bringing our Enemies to terms—But the Theatre is so large there is no Judgeing with certainty Remember that tho I am not always Very punctual in performing my part of the correspondence It does not dissolve the Obligation on your part; You have more time for speculation than I have. You are secluded from all the world and have nothing to intrude upon your meditations—I may relate to you Matters of fact when any worth Notice present themselves, but You have a better oppertunity of giving the pure products of undisturbed reflection—It is remarked that persons who have lost any of their senses particularly the sight have stronger conceptions and can exert their mental faculties with greater Energy than others—Thus you who have not the Various Matters which constitute the Vicissitudes of camp to draw your attention from Object to Object—May calmly pursue what you have fixt your Views upon and pierce the Maze of Difficulties doubts ambiguities and Obscurity which may envelope a subject and discriminate truth wherever it may be from its counterfeit tho' ever so much disguised

Pray let me hear from you as often as you can what do you follow? are you studying Divinity? it is a noble profession and the best way a man can spend his Embrio life for his own happiness—You will find that all the enjoyment of this life except those which are purely rational and divine are Vanity and in the End prove a Vexation of spirit It is not worth our while to be much concerned in what condition we spend this life which is comparitively but a moment provided we are in a capacity to be as usefull in our day and generation as our talent admit

I am DrSir Your sincere friend

S: DeWitt

XXXXVI

Mr. John Bogart
North Branch

Mr Henry—

New Brunswick Sept. 29th, 1781

Dear Sir,

Mr. Henry will call upon you with some Parchment which I am induced to send to you to write my *Diaploma*, your doing this shall at all times lay me under a sense of obligation for the favour, I hope sir you will comply with my request; if not the disappointment will be great, since I know no person who is capable of performing it, but provided it is not in your power Mr. Henry must return the Parchment—The Trustees meet the 3 Teusday in October, if it is in your power send it by some convenient opportunity, if not keep it till some person calls for it In so doing you will greatly oblige your friend & very humbl.

Servt. Tim Blauvelt

PS. Should be exceeding happy of your company up the N. River, this might be of essential service to your health—shall set out on Wednesday Morning next.

My Compliments to your family

Mr. Bogart

TB

XXXXVII

Albany October 18th: 1781

Dear sir,

A latin school has been erected in this place, since last year, as I understand under the direction of the corporation of the City. Mr. Merchant has undertaken as teacher to instruct the youth, with Mr. Chapin, now the school is increased to the number of fifty scholars, therefore they want a third teacher, to learn the youth to write and instruct them in the Mathematics. I have taken the freedom to recommend you as a friend, and whom I judge properly qualified for the business. Mr. Merchant has told me yesterday that the corporation have wrote to you on the subject, and desire you will be

pleased to accept of their offer; he told me farther the condition is One hundred pounds they will pay you per Annum: and also requested me to write to you as I am personally acquainted with you. I cannot use any persuasive arguments to excite you to accept of the offer, as I do not know your intentions with respect to the study for the Ministry of the glorious Gospel of the blessed Jesus, which is so important and so necessary in this day of degeneracy that should you be inclined to prosecute the study of Divinity, I would rather wish you to go on with it in the name & strength of our glorious Jesus, that you may be useful in the Church of Christ in your day, and generation; but If you have laid aside, all thoughts for the study of divinity, I might advise you if you should be inclined to it to accept of the offer which I understand is made to you by the corporation; provided you meet with no better encouragement from some other quarter. My dear friend I wish you well for time and eternity, I hope it may please the Lord of his infinite goodness to direct you agreeable to his eternal council, to his glory, and your happiness. I conclude with wishing you health happiness & the blessings of the everlasting gospel of the amiable Jesus. I am sir your most humble servant

Nicholas Lansingh

P.S. Be pleased to excuse my haste. I heard from you that it was your desire to spend your days for the good of your fellow creatures; Either as a Minister of the gospel, or else to instruct youth, therefore I have recommended you as a teacher for this school above mentioned, I hope you'll pardon my freedom should you take it amiss.

XXXVIII

Mr. John Bogard
Raritan

New-Jersey

Dear Friend.

I wish it had been in my power, to have visited you in your distress, when at Raritan; but my hurry of Business and want of time put it out of my power either to pay you a visit or to write in answer to your request. As soon after my return as possible, I sit down to comply with the desire of my distressed Friend: whom I hope mercifull and indulgent Heaven, will soon restore to health of Body and Comfort of mind. To the latter, I would, with the greatest pleasure, cast in my mite. As to the Marks of a State of saving Grace are Copiously dispersed through the Oracles of God. Such as are *proper to all the Children of God: To them only*, and to them at *all times*: are the most sure to be guided by in the important inquiries after true and lasting happiness: and if properly and prudently improved, tend much to the Comfort & advantage of the human mind. I doubt whither I can give these Marks in the same order I delivered them in the Sermon You refer to, but shall endeavour to give them in Substance. I beg, dear Sr. you will consider, a State of Grace, essentially consists in renewed and sanctified Principles in the heart and being freed by a living Faith from the Condemning power of Guilt. These I do now suppose, not prove. If the Marks under Consideration shall be genuin, they must evince both these. Such as prove *renewed Principles*, I humbly conceive to be. 1. *Spiritual views of spiritual things*. Though the inlightened mind may find itself in the dark, yet the views it had, still leave an habitual Sense of the supereminent Excellency of Divine things in the mind, counting all other things dross and dung, in Comparison. A sober recollection of some perticular views, in a former day of some diliverance evinces to the mind that they then beheld the way of Salvation in a point of view, which no carnal or natural reasoning could afford them. 2. *A spiritual Bent or Inclination of the will and affections*. Which becomes evident from the habitual aversion to all, the most darling sin to nature: The sincere desire to be freed from them: The breathing after Conformity to God: The groaning under this Body of Sin and death: And the agreeable sensation the Soul experiences upon the least prospect of their be devoted to God. 3. *Such habits produces simelar effects*. The Soul finds a spontaneous disposition to view its action; the Principle from whence,

and the manner in which performed, and the end, to which directed. A Sense of inability to pursue the desirable objects in these particulars, cause him to pray for aid, if it even should be, by groans, not to be uttered: To watch the outgoings of the heart: To fear and dread all rest and easiness in duties, lest they should want the necessary requisites to be acceptable to God. And if ever such a mind enjoys any real Comfort and Satisfaction, it proceeds from its relying, with all the Imperfections of its nature and actions, on the meritorious satisfaction of its Mediator, the Son of God.—Secondly, such as prove, *our being freed, by a living Faith, from the Condemning power of Sin*, I conceive to be. 1. The mind's *habitual views of, and inclination to that way of Justification, which the Gospel only and fully reveals and offers*. If it finds rest and satisfaction, as to its peace with God, from any degree of Reformation arrived to, or duties performed, it proves a legal heart: by the law, no flesh shall be justified. But if under a Sense of Guilt and deserved Condemnation, it dreads all legal works as the way to be Reconciled to God; but feels, that he wishes to be found in Christ, not so much from necessity, because he believes he must otherwise go to hell, but from a full Conviction of the suitableness of the way of Sovereign Grace, tending most to our abasement and the Glory of God. This proves the assenting act of Faith: The lowest, I conceive, in order to our Justification. Self-Deceivers, may speak much of Christ; but if duely examined, will be found to originate, not so much from a Complacency in that way, as humbling to itself, and to the Glory of God; as from self-love, their views of the many benefits accruing by his death to them. Therefore their language generally is what reasons they have to love Christ, who, by his sufferings, has delivered them from hell and gave them a title to heaven. While they discover deep Ignorance of what hell or heaven really are. 2. By this act of Faith, the *mind experiences*, though perhaps not always with a Consciousness to itself *the blessed effects of a State of free Pardon*. By serious reflection they must acknowledge, That at times they had views of the fullness suitableness and willingness of Christ to save Sinners, so that they could acquiesce in them, offer up themselves with all their Condemning Guilt to him, and, though perhaps no full assurance of his accepting them, yet the soul found peace, could then go with some degree of liberty to God; And felt that satisfaction in him, all the world could not give. 3. From this follows the *Correspondent frames and exercises* of the mind. When these Views are lost, the soul is dissatisfied, fears the danger of deceit; it can believe, if it really was so interested in Christ, as it had seen the way open for Sinners, it would dare call God its Father. What it then tasted creates a craving desire for the same and more clear and satisfactory enjoyments of such Frames. This proves more or less clear, an interview with a reconciled God. For no one can truly and sincerely regret the *loss and want* of an unknown thing, God may communicate his common bounties to the graceless, but not the special Communications of himself. Self-Deceivers may talk of *Darkness and light*, But it is merely their frames, not an humble access to God, not Gospel views of God in Christ.

These, my Friend, are some of the marks I rank in the before mentioned class. Duly to consider them, may be usefull. Where discoverable, they ought to engage the mind with more incouragement, to seek the full assurance of Faith; which is to be obtained, by repeated acts of Faith in the manner aforesaid and thereby exercise Fellowship with God; or by such acts of Faith as lays hold of Christ under clearer Views of his mediatorial Glory, and the reflecting act of Assurance of one's being therein accepted by him. The last is attainable though not obtained by all the Children of God.

The State, Sr. of Bodily weakness to which you are Subject; is an additional call to make Your Calling & Election sure. My soul wishes it for your benefit and Comfort. I trust You are no Stranger to the foregoing Marks. I pray God to enlarge them to your satisfaction, Christ is able to save to the Uttermost. May a Merciful God restore you to a better State of health, that you may yet be usefull to Church and State.—I have before, as your sincere Friend, told you, I feared your Constitution would not be able to bare the labours and fatigues of the ministry. I afterwards had some hopes your Constitution was gathering Strenght and that obstacle be removed,

but how far such an attack upon it as you now have suffered, may again impair your Tabernacle of clay, you will be best able to judge. If you should again recover, so far at least, as to find yourself capable to follow business, I wish you would let me know, how far you may be engaged, and if in this Quarter a Door should open for a Mathematical School, Whither I might try my Influence to obtain my desire in procuring you to take the Charge of it?

I have nothing new to Communicate. We are all, through mercy, in a State of health. My Father's Family has been under Considerable Affliction, my Sister removed into the eternal world, after a long and tedious illness, and after my return I found my Brother's Son, whom my Parents had brought up seized with violent Pains in foot and knee both have festered, and the bone in the heel, the Cherurgion judges, to be affected; Which I fear will afford, much Distress.

It would have afforded me much pleasure to have had the Opportunity of seeing you; Perhaps a jaunt up here, after You should have recovered sufficient strength to perform it, might be advantagious to your impaired Constitution. I conclude with my kindest respect and best wishes, my wife joins me and we desire to be remembered to our Dear Raritan Friends you may meet with. and so am

Dear Friend, Yours sincerely

Jacob R: Hardenbergh

Rosendall }
Novr. 13: 1781 }

Mr: John Bogard

XXXIX

Mr. John Bogart
Student

Raritan.

Manor Livingston Janry 31. 1782

Dear Sir

Your's of the 19th of last November I have recieved. I have been to Albany, and this day returned, I have spoken to one of the members of the Corporation they are amazed that you have not Answered their letter & to inform them of your final determination with respect to what they have requested, I send this by my friend Mr. Charles Dickinson who is going to Morristown, & will stay there about three days & return. If you can send an Answer to the Corporation by Mr. Dickinson. I must close for I have no time to write I wish you a saving interest in Christ our glorious Redeemer. I am Your friend

Nicholas Lansingh

XXXX

Mr. John Bogert
Raritan

N. Brunswick
the 3d of march 1782—

Mr. Bogert
Dr Sir

I am happy to hear of your recovery from a long state of illness—Take exercise—and enjoy your friends if you wish to prevent a return of the fever.—

If you shall not have too fully engaged with the corporation of Albany, and if you shall prefer Brunswick to Albany, There is a vacancy in the school at this

place. Mr Kirkpatrick is determined to enter upon other business in the spring—There are at present twenty Scholars and I have no doubt of a large increase several have already looked out for lodgings for their children. Suppose the number shall be 25 next year at £ 6 pr. Anm.— each, it will amount to £ 150.—

I shall thank you for an answer
I remain with esteem your friend
Jno. Taylor

XXXXI

Mr. John Bogert
Raritan

N. Brunswick,
the 11th. April.

Dr. Sir.—

I received your's when at Raritan. I wished to see you at the Vendue—You say that you are under obligation by promise to the Corporation of Albany, in case they shall inform you of their acceptance of your offer—This information I hope you have not yet received, if so I think you are free from your engagement, and may with propriety enter into business in another place—I wish you to think seriously of the matter, the School at this place will end I am fearful unless you shall consent to take it under your care.—I have one other objection to your going to the northward—you will be under the direction of Mr. Merchant who is not so old a graduate as you are, and not eminent in the classick studies, the Corporation give him £200 pr. Anm—and his assistants only £100 which makes too great a difference.—I want you here that we may attempt a new plan, and make one great exertion to raise *Queen's College* from it's present obscurity, to grandeur and usefulness.—Think again—Think on a large scale—If the Grammar School at this place shall fail, with it tumbles *Queen's College*—Another man may supply that Albany-School as an Assistant—I have written to a young Gentlemen of my acquaintance to undertake at Albany—I dare recommend him—Col. Frelings & Mr. Freileigh are appointed by the *Faculty* to call upon you for a decided answer—Do not say *no*. Many a man has repented of that when it was too late.—

I remain with sincerity

Your Friend

Jno. Taylor

XXXXII

Raritan, April - - .82—

Well—Lantsman

I know you love to compose for your own amusment & doubt not a little for the amusment & instruction of your Lantsman too.

But for fear you, like the Lens: should draw fancy instead of ye favourite object—I shall send you my two Darlings—they have beautiful features they tell me but few Limners are able to take the nice cut of their features for the want of Eye sight—When My two favourites shall stand before you, I beg you will put on your Glass of Literature which the Philos: & Astronomical Society has made you a present of & search out every beauty they are possessed of & draw it in order. I fear not, sending ym to My Lantsn: because I know he is also in love with both of them.—What ye duce? why dont you tell me at once who they are?—

They are two of your sweet hearts you had formerly at N. Brunswick—the Name of the one is.—

An account of the perfect & imperfect Rights in a state of Nature & what differences take place in both in a State of Society.—The Name of the other is How the Elliptic orbits of the planets arise from Sr. Isaac Newtons principles of attraction—

You observe they are two overgrown Infants of an enormous Stature. Well Lantsman since you are fond of drawing I beg you will draw them in full Stature which I suppose will require 3 or 4 sheet of Paper & carry them with you as far as Shawengunk. But who is that calls? O Breackfast is ready—

Adieu

Isaac Blauvelt

XXXXIII

Mr. John Bogart Jur.—
Raritan.

N Brunswick
the 1st of may—

Mr. Bogart
Dr Sir

I have received a letter from Mr. Derick Van Veighthen at Albany, he informs me that Mr. Merchant has left the School at that place, and that the Corporation have determined to send me an invitation as Director of their Acadmy—and also an invitation to Mr. Bogart to direct in the second place and to endeavour to procure a third Teacher—From this it is evident that they do not expect you to remove to Albany so soon as *you expected*.—I wish you to pay us a visit, and conclude to stay with us one or two months There is no necessity to engage for a longer time you can always renew your engagements—If such an invitation shall come I shall think seriously of the matter—

I remain your's

Jno. Taylor

I can not flourish

XXXXIV

Mr. John Bogart
N. Brunswick

From Fort Henry

Dr. Sir safe arrived. the evening of the day we had the pleasure of seeing you, we dined at or with Mrs. Bray & had the supreme felicity of drinking tea with Mrs. Bogart & Miss Peggy V. Wyke.

I suppose you have determined wether you go to Alb. or no by this time I hope the latter, or the flattering myself with the imagination or hope of your continuing while I am in College is entirely subverted. If you & Mr. Taylor leave it, figure to yourself the event why big with the fate of Queens-College. I predict a tole dissolution of it. Dr. sir the method I proposed when I saw you last I find impracticable to pursue that is studing at home therefore mean to come down to Brns. in a short time about a fortnight or probably longer three weeks at farthest. Now Sir I am agoing to court the favour or honor of being a room mate of yours and if you grant it please to endeavour to prevail on Col. Taylor to lodge me if he objects on the account of inconveniency tell him I can put up with any if washing will be inconvenient I will obviate that by getting it done out leave him no source of denial or objections to take me. I do not know that I have a great deal more to say in this epistle but shall endeavor to find something for the next which I mean to remit to you the next opportunity and every other

The servant will return a monday please to let me know how Bru. agrees with you and the answer you get from Col. Taylor—You will much oblige your friend and
hul. ser—

M.D. Henry

Friday—evening— 16-82

Make my Compliments to Col and Mrs. Taylor—to
the Gentlemen & ladies of my acquaintance.

Mr John Bogart.

XXXXV

South Hampton Buck's County, Augt. 9th. 1782

Sir,

Agreeable to promise that you would endeavour to write My Master Degree, I take the Liberty to transmit you the parchment for that purpose; as to the Form, you remember, you was to make enquiry about it, only the time of its being granted I was to communicate, which is in the following words

Datum Neo Brunopolis in Nova Caesarea, Septimo Decimo Kalendas Octobris, Anno Erae Christianae, Millesimo Septingentesimo, Septuagesimo Octavo.

I cannot write anything particular as to news. Mr. Vredenburg is now waiting to depart; give my Compliments to Mr. Taylor & family; the beginning of Next Month I hope to see you in Brunswick.

My best respects to you.

I remain

Your friend & humble servant

Matthew Light

XXXXVI

Mr. Cornelius Simonson
Griggstown.

New Brunswick, August 27th. 1782.

Dear Brother.

Perhaps you may find fault that I have seen you so seldom this summer, but be assured that it has not risen from any want of affection, or indifference, I have frequently wished to visit you, but something or other has prevented. I was however determined shortly to take a ride to Griggstown, but am apprehensive that my present indisposition; and particularly my leg may for a considerable time prevent me. What can be the cause of my leg swelling and having every appearance of breaking I cannot tell—I do not know that I have any way hurt it—I am at present almost confined to my room—It is not very painful—

There is an English Fleet at the Hook—we have not yet been able to learn their intentions—Some suppose they are designed a convoy for the garrison at New York—

I should be glad to see or to hear from you—My sincere compliments to sisters Mary and Catherine

I am dear sir yours,

John Bogart—

I should be glad to hear how)
Jacob makes out—)

Mr. Cornelius Simonson—

XXXXVII

Mr. John Bogert
Raritan

N. Brunswick Novr. 17th. 1782

Dear Sir.

I will write a few lines whilst Mr. Elmendorph who will hand you this, is putting on his great-coat.—I have received a letter from old Friend V. Veighten who desires this remembrance of friendship—he informs me that the Corporation of Albany have given you an invitation to spend the winter with them—Mr. Elmendorph tells me the same—Think seriously of it, and I imagine you will determine with me, it will be best to go.—I wish it from a view to the public welfare, I wish it from a desire to promote

education, and I know your method of direction—I wish it from a feeling sentiment of real friendship to yourself.—If you shall not for the first year make clear much money, it will be a great mean of reinstating your health, for you will have variety of company, which will rouse your spirits in general too languid—it will bring you into public view—and I have not the least doubt you will the next year have the sole direction of the school.—I wish I could see you—I am fearful you will think yourself too weak to undertake this business—it will cure you, the ride, the change of air, the new faces, the great variety of Company will all much contribute to answer this desirable purpose—Mr. Kirk will continue this winter, he will no doubt leave us in the spring—for he has entered upon the study of Law. I wish you could take a ride to visit your old Friends—It may be that I shall see Albany next summer—

Nothing new for ten days past—

The great coat is on, and buttoned, the chew of Tobacco is now entering within those jaws where many a pound has already been ground to trash as insipid as a dry oak-leaf—

I am your's as always

Jno. Taylor

THE WRITERS

Letters III, VI, VII, XXIV, XXXXVI.

John Bogart was the son of Jacob Bogart, a well-to-do farmer in Bridgewater township, Somerset county, New Jersey, who was received into the membership of the Dutch Reformed Church of North Branch (now the Church of Readington) by certificate in 1774 and was an elder in that church in 1775. He was probably descended from Teunis Gysbert Bogaert who married the widow of Hans Hansen Bergen, Sarah Rapalje, the first white female child born in the New Netherlands. John Bogart is named as a legatee and as an executor in the will of Jacob Bogart which is dated May 15, 1777. Nothing is known of his early life or of his later life. Having been graduated from Queen's in 1778 and placed at once in charge of the Grammar School at Raritan, he was closely associated with the tutor; John Taylor, who was at the same time in charge of the college at North Branch, while New Brunswick was disturbed by British occupation or by various military movements. He was at one time called upon to carry on the college work by Colonel Taylor, whose military duties called him away. To John Bogart, therefore, fell the honor of keeping Queen's College alive during dark days of the Revolution. He began the study of divinity, but it is not apparent that he completed his studies or actually entered the ministry. He was invited to a position in a school at Albany but did not take up work there. His health was not vigorous and his devotion to study was intense. In the absence of any later word concerning him and in view of the references in these letters to his ill health, it is inferred that he died at an early age.

Letter I.

John Stagg, Jr. was the son of John Stagg, who was "an associator in Haverstraw Precinct in May, 1775," and who held other offices of honor and responsibility in New York. He was born in 1758 and died December 28, 1803. He is named in the earliest group of Queen's College graduates. Entering the continental army, he was first appointed a Captain of Minute Men, and then commissioned Lieutenant in Colonel Oliver Spencer's (additional) Continental Regiment March 4, 1778, and became acting paymaster. It is said that at Valley Forge he was Secretary to General Washington. At the close of the war he was appointed by Washington a clerk in the War Office of the government, remaining there eight years. In April, 1801, he was elected Sheriff of New York. His death from yellow fever occurred while he was in that office. He married, first, Phoebe Wood, and second, Margaret, daughter of William De Peyster. He became very active in the Society of the Cincinnati and frequently was an officer of it.

(See Original Members of the N. Y. State Society of the Cincinnati.)

Letter II.

David Annan was the third son of John Annan, of Ceres, near Cupar of Fifeshire, Scotland. He was the next younger brother of Robert Annan, who was for some time pastor of the Federal Street Church in Boston. He was born April 4, 1754, came to America when quite young and received his early education from his brother. He was graduated from Queen's College in the earliest group and received the degree of A.M. from the college in 1782. He studied theology and was ordained to the ministry by Presbytery in session at Wallkill, New York, in October, 1778. He at once became pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Peterborough, New Hampshire, and he remained in that charge until 1792 when the pastoral relation was, at his request, dissolved by the Presbytery of Londonderry. The Presbytery deposed him from the ministry in 1800. It appears that he had lost self-control, had become intemperate and violent. In 1801 he went to Scotland and in 1802, on his way home, died in Ireland.

(See History of Peterborough by Albert Smith, Genealogical Section, p. 14, Boston, 1876.)

Letters IV, V, IX, XIII, XVIII, XX, XXII, XXIII, XXVII, XXX, XXXIV, XXXV.

Simeon DeWitt was of the Dutch and Huguenot pioneer stock in Ulster County, New York, the son of Andrew DeWitt, M.D. He was born in the town of Wawarsing, December 25, 1756. After receiving the usual early education, he was placed in charge of the minister of the town, the Reverend Dirck Romeyn, for his training in the classics; he then entered Queen's College. Toward the end of his course, when the college retired from New Brunswick, he returned home and continued his studies there, spending much time in the family of his uncle, General James Clinton, father of DeWitt Clinton, with whom, as with Governor George Clinton, he was a great favorite. He was graduated from Queen's in the class of 1776 and his diploma is now in the possession of the college. He received the degree of A.M. also from the college. At the organizing of a battalion in Ulster County to join the American army under General Gates, Simeon DeWitt enlisted; he shared in some engagements and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne. During a brief stay at home he devoted himself to the studies of his special choice, mathematics and surveying. When General Washington inquired of General Clinton for a topographer, his name was suggested, and he became at once, 1778, Assistant Geographer of the American Army. In 1780, at the age of 24, he became Chief Geographer and this office he held until 1783; he was with the main army to the end of the campaign, was present at the surrender at Yorktown. From 1784 to 1834 he was Surveyor General of the State of New York. In 1796 he was appointed Surveyor General of the United States but declined the office. He was Regent of the State of New York, 1798 to 1817, Vice Chancellor, 1817 to 1829, and Chancellor, 1829 to 1834. Among the many items of his vastly important public work were the surveying of newly opened lands of the government, the estab-

lishing of a system of meteorological observations, and study of the variations of the magnetic needle. He is regarded by some as the author of the land system used by the United States government. Washington wrote Jefferson from Mount Vernon, 3 March, 1784: "Has not congress received a memorial from Mr. DeWitt now or lately geographer to the northern army? The propositions contained in the copy which he has sent me seem founded in equity; and with respect to himself, I can assure you, he is extremely modest, sensible, sober, discreet, and deserving of favors. He is esteemed a very good mathematician." (History of the Constitution. Bancroft, Vol. I, p. 346). He was one of the engineers planning the Erie Canal and one of the engineers planning the development of New York City. He was an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati and a member of many other societies; from 1813 he was president of the Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, Arts and Manufactures, which had been founded at Albany in 1793. Among the addresses given by him on various occasions is one published in 1819 under the title, "Considerations on the Necessity of Establishing an Agricultural College, and having more of the children of Wealthy Citizens educated for the Profession of Farming." A copy of this pamphlet is in the possession of Rutgers College. The address has special interest as anticipating by so many years the modern movement for agricultural education, as coming from a great engineer and in view of the fact that his own Alma Mater, the old classical college, was to have united with it, a half century later, the New Jersey State College for the Benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.

Simeon DeWitt died at Ithaca, New York, December 3, 1834. In a private journal of his son, Richard Varick DeWitt, is the following personal description of him: "My father was a tall, large man, 5 ft. 11½ inches high, with a noble, serious face, resembling in some respects that of Genl. Washington, of grave but cheerful conversation, dignified deportment, affable to all, with that real polish of manner required by the society of the first gentlemen of the time in civil and military life, with whom his official position brought him in constant contact. He was a scholar, having taken the first position & borne the highest honors of his College—Queen's now Rutgers—A mathematician of no mean acquirements and a philosopher in the widest sense of the word, either in physical or moral Science, and to crown all a true and devout Christian." Simeon DeWitt's granddaughter, Miss Sarah W. DeWitt, is still living and has given Rutgers College books and other articles once his property.

(See Eulogium of Simeon DeWitt. Delivered before the Albany Institute April 23, 1835. By T. Romeyn Beck, M.D. Pamphlets, Vol. 58.)

Letters VIII, X, XI, XII, XV, XXIX, XXXII, XXXIII.

Simeon Van Artsdalen was of an old Dutch family that removed from Long Island to Pennsylvania prior to 1730. He was the son of John Van Artsdalen and was born July 10, 1753, in Bucks County. He attended Queen's College and was probably graduated there in 1780, although the statement is somewhere made that

he was a graduate of Princeton. He studied theology, under Dr. John H. Livingston no doubt, and was ordained to the ministry in 1783. He became at once minister of the Dutch Reformed Church of North Branch, now Readington, where John Bogart had conducted his classes, and remained in that charge until his death three years later. In ability and character he was an unusual man. It is said that he had great power as a preacher, was devoted in pastoral work, and was deeply spiritual in life. He was held in rare esteem and soon after his ordination received a call to the Dutch Reformed Church of New York City, now known as the Collegiate Church, which he declined on account of his youth. In 1783 he was elected a trustee of Queen's College and in the same year he was appointed tutor. His promising life came swiftly to its close. He is buried in the church yard at Readington, with this inscription on the stone at his grave:

"In memory of the Rev. Simeon Van Arsdalen, who departed this life the 26th day of May, 1786, in the thirty-third year of his age.

Here lies entombed a servant of the Lord,
A faithful preacher of his sacred word,
Who now with Christ in glory is set down,
Decked in white robes and honored with a crown."

(See History of the Reformed Church at Readington, N. J., Henry P. Thompson, pp. 70-73.)

Letters XVI, XVII.

James Schureman was the grandson of Jacobus (James) Schureman, who came to this country from Holland as schoolmaster with Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen, the early Dutch minister in the valley of the Raritan. His father was John Schureman, a very influential citizen of New Brunswick, and he was born there February 12, 1756. He was graduated from Queen's College in the first group, 1771-80, and at once entered upon a singularly useful life. He was a man of marked ability, varied activities and great public spirit, and attained great distinction in the life of his city, his state and his nation. Serving in the Continental army, he became Second Lieutenant in Captain Taylor's Company, Colonel Neilson's battalion of minute men, in 1776, and was in various engagements. After the war he served at different times as tutor in Queen's College. He was elected a trustee of the college in 1782 and served in that office until his death, forty-two years later. In 1786 he was a member of the Provincial Congress of New Jersey and in the same year he was a delegate to the Annapolis Convention. From 1786 to 1788 he was a member of the Continental Congress, and for three terms, 1789-91, 1797-99, and 1813-15, he was a member of the Congress of the United States. He was United States Senator from New Jersey, 1799-1801. In 1812 he was Vice President of the Council of New Jersey. His home was always in New Brunswick, his place of business on Burnet Street at the foot of Schureman Street; he was president of the bank, mayor of the city, and elder in the Dutch Reformed Church. He died January 22, 1824.

(See Historical Discourse, One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Reformed Dutch Church, New Brunswick, N. J., Richard H. Steele, D.D., pp. 67-69.)

Letters XIX, XXV, XXXX, XXXXI, XXXXIII, XXXXVII.

John Taylor was descended from Richard Taylor, Esq., member of Parliament in 1620, whose son Richard was also a member of Parliament in 1661. His grandfather, John Taylor, and his father, Jacob Taylor, came from England to New Jersey in 1739 and settled at Amboy. Jacob Taylor later moved to Princeton, and John Taylor was born there August 1, 1751. He was graduated from Princeton in 1770 in the same class with Frederick Frelinghuysen with whom he was to be almost at once associated at Queen's College; both had studied under the great scholarship and ardent patriotism of President Witherspoon. Soon after graduation John Taylor moved to New Brunswick, building his home on the Raritan just above Albany Street. He was devoted to learning and at once gave active interest to Queen's College, just then beginning its work. He had part in the organizing of the Grammar School and gave instruction in it. When Frederick Frelinghuysen, first tutor of the college, was withdrawn by civic and military duty from his work of instruction, John Taylor succeeded him; official appointment was given him in 1777, but undoubtedly he had taught college classes prior to that time. He too was drawn away at times from academic duties by the exigencies of war. At first a Captain in the Continental army, he became Major, then Lieutenant Colonel, and finally Colonel. At the college he drilled the students into readiness for service. With Washington he crossed the Delaware, and was at Trenton, Princeton and Monmouth. Announcements of the college in 1779 and 1780 show him still formally in charge of it. In 1781 he was appointed Professor of Mathematics and Natural Science, and he continued in this office for about ten years. In November, 1790, he is named as in charge of the old Elizabeth Town Academy. In 1793 he accepted a call to Schenectady to take charge of Union Academy which soon developed into Union College. In 1795 he was appointed Professor of Mathematics and Natural Science in the college, and for some time he was Acting President of it; he was also appointed Librarian in 1796. He died November 5, 1801, of yellow fever and is buried in the Presbyterian church yard at Schenectady. His ability and character won him deserved reputation and his work for the two early colleges founded by Dutch zeal for learning and religion commands enduring gratitude. Especially is it worthy of remark that his attainments and instruction in mathematics and natural science may have given Queen's College from its beginning an unusual strength and activity in scientific studies, associated with the classical studies which prevailed in all the early American colleges. Such training in science is hinted in the early graduation of so eminent a mathematician and engineer as Simeon DeWitt; it is prophetic of the trend of almost all modern colleges and universities, as well as singularly confirmed by the modern scientific activity at Rutgers, whose charter as Queen's College reads "erected for the education of youth in the learned languages, liberal and useful arts and sciences."

(See *The Two Colonels John Taylor*. Henry Race, M.D. pp. 3-8. Address of John Neilson Taylor at Rutgers College.)

Letters XXI, XXVI, XXVIII, XXXVII, XXXIX.

Nicholas Lansingh was descended from Gerritt Frederick Lansing, who came from Holland and settled in Albany about 1650. He was the son of John Jacob Lansing and Catharina Schuyler. His baptism, according to the records of the Dutch Reformed Church of Albany, was on September 11, 1748, but the date of his birth given on the stone at his grave, a date given by him, it appears, near the end of his life, is September 20, 1748. In his youth he was a boatman on the Hudson River and he became master of a sailing vessel, plying between Albany and New York. At the age of thirty he experienced conversion of a deep and overpowering sort. He sought preparation for the ministry at once and began his studies under the Reverend Eilardus Westerlo, minister of the Albany Church. When he presented himself for examination, he bore testimonials not only from Dr. Westerlo, but as well from the trustees of Queen's College. It is therefore to be assumed that he studied at the college for a time at least or perhaps only passed examinations there; possibly he was graduated, but his name does not appear in the general catalogue. He passed his examination for licensure especially well, was licensed to preach in 1780, and was ordained to the ministry in 1781. He was pastor of the three congregations of the Manor Livingston, Columbia County, New York, from 1781 to 1784, of the churches of Tappan and Clarkstown, New York, from 1784 to 1830, and of the church of Tappan alone from 1830 to 1835. For about fifty years, then, he served in the same parish, a great country congregation. He preached up to the very last, even on the Sunday before his death, his eighty-seventh birthday. His piety was so deep and genuine, his directness and power as a preacher so unusual, his individuality so marked, that he attained great influence and reputation. He was vividly remembered by all who ever knew him, and traditions of his eccentric appearance and sayings linger to this day. He was president of the General Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church in 1809. He died September 26, 1835, and he is buried in the church yard at Tappan.

(See History of the Classis of Paramus, pp. 231-233.)

 Letter XXXI.

Jeremiah Smith, the son of William and Elizabeth (Morison) Smith, was born at Peterborough, N. H., November 29, 1759. His parents were of Scotch-Irish stock. His father was born in the north of Ireland, and his maternal grandfather, John Morison, was in Londonderry during the siege of that town, and was at the battle of the Boyne. He early developed great desire for learning, sometimes walking miles to a place where he heard there was a book. When seventeen years of age he enlisted for a short term in the Revolutionary army, and was present at the battle of Bennington, where he was slightly wounded. In 1777 he entered Harvard College. After remaining there two years, he removed to Queen's (now Rutgers) College in New Jersey, where he graduated in 1780. He was admitted to the bar in 1786, and

opened an office in his father's farm-house at Peterborough. In 1788, 1789, and 1790 he was a member of the legislature, and was chairman of the committee which prepared the draft of the revised statutes enacted in 1791. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1791, and took a prominent part in its proceedings. In December, 1790, he was elected a member of the second Congress of the United States, and was re-elected to the third, fourth, and fifth congresses. In Congress he was a supporter of Washington's administration; and, when the inevitable division into parties came, he joined the Hamiltonian Federalists.

In July, 1797, he resigned his seat in Congress, accepted the appointment of United States district attorney for New Hampshire, and removed to Exeter, which continued to be his home until within a few months of his death. In 1800 he was appointed judge of probate for the county of Rockingham, and it was probably at this time that he composed an elaborate treatise on probate law, which still exists in manuscript. In February, 1801, he was appointed by President Adams a judge of the newly established U. S. Circuit Court, which was abolished a year later.

In 1802 he was appointed chief justice of the Superior Court of New Hampshire, and served until 1809, when he became governor. Failing a re-election as governor, he returned to the bar in 1810, but left it in 1813 to take the position of chief justice of the Supreme Court established in that year. Upon the abolition of this court in 1816 he returned once more to the bar, where he was associated with Mason and Webster as counsel in the Dartmouth College case.

In 1820 or 1821 Judge Smith withdrew from active practice, and passed the remaining years of his life chiefly at his beautiful home in Exeter, still continuing to be a purchaser and reader of law books, and an indefatigable student of general literature. In these years he was never idle. In addition to his legal and literary studies he gave much time to financial and educational trusts, serving as president of the Exeter Bank and as treasurer and president of the board of trustees of Phillips Exeter Academy.

In the spring of 1842 he removed to Dover, N. H., where he died September 21, 1842.

The most important public service rendered by Judge Smith was that performed by him as chief justice of New Hampshire. Before his time the administration of the law in this state was exceedingly unsystematic, not to say chaotic. A lively sketch of the old state of things may be found in the life of Governor Plumer, pages 149-159 and 181-184. Many of the judges of the highest court had received no legal education. Two of the three associate justices at the date of Judge Smith's appointment were clergymen. It cannot be doubted that the credit of "bringing order out of chaos" belongs to Judge Smith more than to any other one man. "To him," said Mr. Mason, "the state is greatly, if not chiefly, indebted for the present more orderly proceedings and better administration of justice." "With him," said Chief Justice Parker, "there arose a new order of things." Judge Doe, in Vol. 49, *New Hampshire Reports*, p. 604, alludes to the "inestimable labors of Chief Justice Smith, who found the law of New Hampshire, in practice and administration, a chaos, and who left it comparatively an organized and scientific system." "When I came to the bar," wrote Mr. Webster to Chancellor Kent, "he was chief justice of the state. It was a day of the gladsome light of jurisprudence * * *

He knows everything about New England, having studied much of its history and its institutions; and as to the law, he knows so much more of it than I do, or ever shall, that I forbear to speak on that point."

The practice of reporting the decisions in print did not begin in this state until after Judge Smith had left the bench, and consequently none of his opinions are to be found in the regular series of New Hampshire Reports. A volume selected from his manuscript decisions was published in 1879, and is commonly cited as "Smith's New Hampshire Reports." But these decisions, though praised by competent authorities, cannot give the present generation a fair idea of the worth of Judge Smith's judicial labors. His most valuable work, that of systematizing the practice and administering the law upon scientific principles, is something which cannot be fully delineated on paper or in print.

Any sketch of Judge Smith would be incomplete if it failed to mention the high estimate generally formed of his conversational powers. On this point it will be sufficient to cite the testimony of Mr. Webster, given near the close of his own life, after opportunity for converse with the best talkers of England as well as America. "Jeremiah Smith," wrote Mr. Webster in 1849, "was perhaps the best talker I have been acquainted with; he was full of knowledge of books and men, had a great deal of wit and humor, and abhorred silence as an intolerable state of existence."

(Written by the son of the above, Jeremiah Smith, now (1914) Emeritus Professor at Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Mass.)

Letters XXXVI, XXXXII.

Timothy Blauvelt and *Isaac Blauvelt* were sons of *Johannes Blauvelt* who lived near Clarkstown, New York, at that time in Orange County, and now in Rockland County. Timothy was born April 5, 1762, and was graduated from Queen's College in 1782. He studied theology under Dr. Livingston and was licensed to preach in 1784. His death occurred very soon thereafter; it is said that he lived to preach only one sermon in public and that this sermon was the means of leading one of his hearers to a saving faith in Christ. The older brother, Isaac, was born in 1750 and was graduated from Queen's in 1783, at the age of 33. He studied theology under Dr. Hardenbergh and was licensed to preach before graduation from college, in 1780. He was minister of the churches of Fishkill and Hopewell in Dutchess County, New York, from 1783 to 1790, and of the churches of Paramus and Saddle River in New Jersey, 1790-1791. He was suspended from the ministry in 1791 on a charge which does not clearly appear, which probably was trivial and not really against his character; he never resumed the active pastorate, although he was restored to church privileges in 1824. He had a high reputation as a preacher and, it is said, was greatly esteemed for his Christian character and devoutness. He was made a trustee of Queen's College in 1785 and resigned the office in 1831. He made his home on a farm at New Rochelle, New York, and died in 1840. A third brother, Abraham Blauvelt, was graduated from Queen's in 1789 and remained in New

Brunswick as proprietor of The New Brunswick Guardian and as publisher and bookseller. He became a trustee of the college in 1800 and was chairman of the Building Committee that began in 1809 the erection of Queen's Building, still the central edifice on the Rutgers College campus. Three sons of Abraham Blauvelt were graduated from the college, Cornelius S. in 1810, William Warren in 1814, and Isaac Alstyne, when Queen's had become Rutgers, in 1828. A son of William Warren Blauvelt writes, "I have heard my father tell that in his boyhood days his father (Abraham Blauvelt) took him in his gig and they drove through Bergen County and Rockland County to raise money for building Queen's College. They stopped at every house, getting sometimes a shilling, sometimes half a dollar or a dollar, and occasionally from some benevolent plutocrat five dollars."

(See History of Reformed Church of Tappan, David Cole, pp. 110-112. History of Classis of Paramus, pp. 252-253.)

Letter XXXVIII.

Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh was descended from a Prussian family of high rank, located at the time of emigration to this country in the Netherlands near Utrecht. His grandfather, Johannes Hardenbergh, came to America about the middle of the seventeenth century and married Catherine Rutsen, daughter of Colonel Jacob Rutsen of Rosendale, near Kingston, New York, and the family possessed one-seventh or one-eighth share of the "Great Patent" which included much of what is now Ulster, Greene, Delaware and Sullivan Counties. Johannes Hardenbergh, 2nd, maintained the family's influential position, was Colonel in the New York Militia, member of the Colonial Assembly, field officer with Washington, elder in the Dutch Reformed Church, and an original trustee of Queen's College; he married Maria Du Bois, granddaughter of Louis Du Bois, the New Paltz patentee. Their son was Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh, born at Rosendale in 1737 or 1738. He received his early education at Kingston, and later studied theology under the Reverend John Frelinghuysen at Raritan, New Jersey. His preceptor died in 1754 and in 1758 he succeeded him in charge of the Raritan Church and other Somerset County parishes. He was ordained in that year and continued in that field from 1758 to 1781 with the exception of the years 1761 to 1763. From the beginning it was plain that he would be a leader in church and state. It was a time of doctrinal controversy and he led the evangelical party; it was a time of dispute as to ecclesiastical authority and he led the movement for independence from Holland. In the Dutch Reformed Church he was second only to the Reverend John H. Livingston in position and influence. Four times he was president of the General Synod. It was a time of national emergency and he gave himself to high patriotic service. He was called to a seat in the Convention that framed the constitution of New Jersey; he was for several years a member of the General Assembly and served on important committees; he was a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1776. His zealous patriotism excited strong Tory hatred; his church was burned; his life was sometimes in peril. During two winters Washington's army

was encamped within the bounds of his parish, at Middlebrook; Washington occupied the house next to his and was often his guest. A warm friendship grew up between the two men which apparently served good purpose for both the army and the church. The Consistory of the Church of Raritan sent a patriotic, congratulatory address to General Washington, signed by Jacob R. Hardenbergh, V.D.M., Praes., of date June 1, 1779. The following answer was at once received from Washington:

"To the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Dutch Reformed Church at Rariton.
Camp, Middlebrook, 2 June, 1779.

Gentlemen, To meet the approbation of good men cannot but be agreeable. Your affectionate expressions make it still more so. In quartering an army and in supplying its wants, distress and inconvenience will often occur to the citizen. I feel myself happy in a consciousness that these have been strictly limited by necessity, and in your opinion of my attention to the rights of my fellow citizens. I thank you, Gentlemen, sincerely for the sense you entertain of the conduct of the army, and for the interest you take in my welfare. I trust the goodness of the cause, and the exertions of the people, under Divine protection, will give us that honorable peace for which we are contending. Suffer me, gentlemen, to wish the Reformed Dutch Church at Rariton, a long continuance of its present minister and consistory, and all the blessings which flow from piety and religion."

(Life and Writings of Washington. Sparks. Vol. VI, pp. 441-444.)

In the New Jersey State Papers, Department of State, Washington, D. C., page 433, is a letter of William Livingston, Governor of New Jersey, to Henry Laurens, President of Congress, 3 November, 1778, which reads in part as follows: "This covers a packet which I received inclosed in a Letter from the Rev^d Mr. Hardenbergh, in which he informs me that they are dispatches from the Dutch Synod of New York and New Jersey to the Classis of Amsterdam, containing among other things some account of our present troubles; and that some of their members have been encouraged by members of Congress to hope that if they sent them to Congress they would be prudently forwarded;—and begging me to take the trouble of conveying them for that purpose. Mr. Hardenbergh is a Dutch clergyman who has been exceedingly instrumental in promoting the cause of America;—and the low-dutch clergy, both in this and the State of New York, are almost universally firm friends to these United States."

A supreme interest in Dr. Hardenbergh's life was the proposed college. He gave constant support to the movement; he was one of the signers to the petition for a charter, one of the original trustees named in the charter with his father, Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh of Rosendale, and the first president of the college. He probably taught in it and presided over it in its earliest days. He signed the diploma of Simeon DeWitt, class of 1776, "Praeses, P.T.," which must mean President pro tem. He had married Dinah Van Bergh, widow of his preceptor, the Reverend John Frelinghuysen, thereafter known as the Juffrow Hardenbergh; Frederick Frelinghuysen, the first tutor, was therefore his stepson. In 1781 he removed to New York State to take charge of the churches of Marbletown, Rochester and Wawarsing, near his early home. In 1785 he was called to be pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church of New Brunswick and at the same time to be president of Queen's College. He served in both offices until his death five years after, his never robust

health worn down by the various and arduous work of a generation. He received the degree of A.M. in 1770 and the degree of D.D. in 1771 from Princeton College, and the degree of S.T.D. from Columbia College in 1789. He is buried in the church yard at New Brunswick. The inscription on the stone at his grave reads:

"Here lies the body of J. R. Hardenbergh, D.D., late pastor of this church, who departed this life the 30th day of October, 1790, aged 52 years, — months, — days. He was a zealous Preacher of the Gospel, and his life and conversation afforded, from his earliest days, to all who knew him a right example of piety. He was a steadfast Patriot, and in his public and private conduct he manifested himself to be the enemy of tyranny and oppression, the lover of freedom, and the friend of his country. He has gone to his Lord and Redeemer, in whose atonement he confidently trusted. He is gone to receive the fruits of his labors and the reward of a well spent life. Reader, while you lament the loss to society and his friends, go walk in his virtuous footsteps, and when you have finished the work assigned you, you shall rest with him in eternal peace."

(See Historical Discourse, One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Reformed Church of New Brunswick, N. J. Richard H. Steele. pp. 74-85. History of the Church of Readington. Henry P. Thompson. pp. 53-67. Annals of American Pulpit, Dutch Reformed Church. Sprague. pp. 21-29, &c., &c.)

Letter XXXXIV.

Michael D. Henry was a grandson of Michael Henry who came to New Jersey from Newry, Ireland, and son of David Henry who lived near Lamington, Somerset County. He was born in 1760 and he was graduated from Queen's in 1783. He studied law and practiced in New York City. He married a Miss Graham of North Carolina and had three sons, one of whom, Lewis Dudley Henry, entered public life and was at one time candidate for governor. The will of Michael D. Henry, dated May 10, 1799, and probated June 6, 1799, speaks of him as "Attorney-at-Law of the City of New York and now in the City of New Brunswick;" it is probable, therefore, that he died in New Brunswick. One of the executors of the will is John Bray, apparently an early student of Queen's College, and one of the witnesses is Andrew Kirkpatrick, early teacher of Queen's Grammar School. In the Presbyterian church yard at Lamington there is a stone with this inscription:

M. D. H.

In memory of
Michl D. Henry,
Esq., Counsellor at
law late of the city
of New York who
departed this life
May the 25, 1799
aged 39 years 1 month
and 9 days.

(See Somerset County Historical Quarterly, Vol. II, No. 4, p. 315.)

Letter XXXXV.

Matthew Light (or *Leydt*) was born March 4, 1753. His father was the Reverend Johannes Leydt, who was minister of the Dutch Reformed Church of New Brunswick from 1748 to 1783, a sturdy and active patriot, and a devoted friend of learning; he was one of the founders of Queen's College, a signer of the petition for the charter, a solicitor of funds for the foundation and an original member of the Board of Trustees. Matthew Leydt, the son, after graduation from Queen's in the earliest group, 1771-80, studied theology, probably under Dr. Hardenbergh, and was licensed to preach in 1778. He was pastor at Belleville and Gansegat (now Fairfield), New Jersey, 1779-80, and at North and South Hampton, Pennsylvania, from 1780 to 1783. In 1783 he was elected a trustee of Queen's College. His death occurred in the same year, November 24, 1783. He is buried in the old graveyard at the place familiarly known as "The Buck," near which stood the first church building of the congregation of North Hampton.

(See Historical Discourse, One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Reformed Church, New Brunswick, N. J. Richard H. Steele. p. 70.)

Reference, Letters XXX and XXXXI.

Frederick Frelinghuysen was the grandson of the Reverend Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen and the son of the Reverend John Frelinghuysen. Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen was born in the Netherlands, studied theology there, served for a brief time in the ministry there, and came to this country at about twenty-eight years of age. He was in charge of the Dutch Reformed churches in the Raritan Valley, Middlesex and Somerset Counties, New Jersey, from 1720, and fulfilled a most important work in evangelical preaching in widespread pastorate, in church organizing and in the promoting of education. George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards, with whom he was associated, speak of him as "one of the greatest divines of the American Church." He was a pioneer spirit in the movement toward independence of the Dutch churches in this country from Holland authority. He was the proposer and constant supporter of the movement for the founding of the college finally chartered in 1766. His eldest son, the Reverend Theodorus Frelinghuysen, minister of the Dutch Reformed Church of Albany, was his successor in the promoting of the college movement; he went to Holland to secure funds for it, and was lost at sea at the end of the return voyage. The first Domine Frelinghuysen's second son, John, also became a minister; he succeeded his father in the Raritan parishes and was also active in effort for the college.

Frederick Frelinghuysen was the son of the Reverend John Frelinghuysen and Dinah Van Bergh, a woman remarkable for ability and piety, who, after Mr. Frelinghuysen's death, married Dr. Hardenbergh. He was born at Three Mile Run, Somerset County, April 13, 1753, and was graduated from Princeton in 1770. At once, when less than nineteen years of age, he became first tutor of the newly founded

Queen's College. He was expected to study for the ministry, but while in charge of the college began the study of law; he studied for a time, possibly, under Richard Stockton, and under William Paterson, and he was admitted to the bar in 1774 at the age of twenty-one. Frederick Frelinghuysen probably was actively in charge of the college for very few years, soon sharing the work with John Taylor, perhaps soon surrendering it to John Taylor. He became a member of the Provincial Congress in 1775 and again in 1776. He was a member of the Committee on Public Safety. In 1778 he was elected by the Legislature to represent New Jersey in the Continental Congress; in 1782 and in 1783 he was also a member of it. He was early active in military operations, organizing, it is said, a corps of artillery of which he became Captain and with which he was engaged at the battle of Trenton. Later he was made Colonel in the militia and was in various engagements, including that at Monmouth Court House. After the war, in 1793, he was chosen Senator of the United States from New Jersey, but in 1796 he resigned this office. In 1794 he was made Major General of militia. He was a trustee of Queen's College from 1782 until his death. He died April 13, 1804. The large and continued connection of the Frelinghuysen family with the college is worthy of note. Following upon Frederick Frelinghuysen, as he had followed his father, his uncle and his grandfather in active and effective interest, have been others of like devotion. The Honorable Theodore Frelinghuysen, LL.D., second son of Frederick, was President of the college and a trustee from 1850 to 1861. He held many important public offices; he was Senator of the United States, and candidate for Vice President of the United States on the ticket with Henry Clay; he was President of the American Bible Society, the American Tract Society, and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions; he was an elder in the Dutch Reformed Church; before becoming President of Rutgers, he was Chancellor of New York University. The Honorable Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, LL.D., grandson of Frederick and nephew of Theodore, was graduated from Rutgers in 1836 and was a trustee of the college from 1851 until his death in 1885; he was a Senator of the United States from New Jersey, and Secretary of State in the cabinet of President Arthur; he was an elder in the Dutch Reformed Church. Frederick Frelinghuysen, LL.D., son of Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, was graduated from Rutgers in 1868, became a trustee in 1885, and has been for many years chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board. He is President of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company. He also is an elder in the Dutch Reformed Church.

(See Somerset County Historical Quarterly, Volume II, No. 3, July, 1913, p. 173. Story of an Old Farm, Andrew D. Mellick. Annals of the American Pulpit, Dutch Reformed Church, Sprague, pp. 8-15. Historical Discourse, One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Reformed Church, New Brunswick, N. J. Richard H. Steele, p. 27. Olde Ulster, Vol. VIII, No. 1, Jan. 1912, p. 1.)

Reference, Letters XXXX and XXXXVI.

Andrew Kirkpatrick was descended from an ancient family of high rank in Scotland. His grandfather, Alexander Kirkpatrick, and his father, David Kirkpatrick, came to this country in 1736 and settled in Somerset County, New Jersey. He was born at Mine Brook, February 17, 1756. He was graduated from Princeton in 1775 and later received the degree of A.M. from both Princeton and Queen's. He began to study theology but turned to the study of law, much to his father's dissatisfaction. He taught for a time in Virginia and for a time at Kingston, New York. He then took charge of the Grammar School of Queen's College, remaining with it, apparently, until 1782. His law studies were pursued at New Brunswick with William Paterson, and in 1785 he was admitted to the Bar. After practicing for a time at Morristown, he again established himself at New Brunswick and entered upon a career of great honor and success. In 1798 he became Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. Six years later he became Chief Justice and, twice reappointed, served twenty-one years in that office. He was at one time candidate for Governor. His great learning, keen legal insight, personal dignity and public spirit made him a most distinguished figure in New Jersey history. His home was on Livingston Avenue, the house now occupied by Professor Charles E. Hart. He was a trustee of Queen's College from 1792 to 1809. Following upon his early service to Queen's as tutor in its Grammar School and his later service as trustee, his family continued in important relation with the college. He married Jane Bayard. One son, Littleton Kirkpatrick, who became a leader of the New Jersey Bar, Attorney-General, and Congressman, was a trustee of Queen's, then become Rutgers, from 1841 to his death in 1859; his widow, Sophia Astley Kirkpatrick, left the college a bequest which built the chapel which bears her name. Another son of Andrew Kirkpatrick was John Bayard Kirkpatrick, whose son, John Bayard Kirkpatrick, was graduated from Rutgers in 1866 and was a trustee of the college from 1892 until his death in 1912.

(See Somerset County Historical Quarterly, Vol. I, No. 4, p. 250, and notes. N. J. Historical Society Proceedings, 2nd Series, Vol. II, p. 79.)

NOTES

LETTER I.

New Brunswick. Queen's College was located at New Brunswick, New Jersey, by vote of the trustees in session at Hackensack on May 7, 1771. Hackensack was seriously considered and was substantially supported in the final vote, ten trustees favoring New Brunswick and seven trustees favoring Hackensack. A determining factor was the larger subscription of the citizens of the former place for the institution. The minutes of this meeting are the only minutes of the Board of Trustees prior to 1782 known to be in existence. Meetings of the Board were held with apparent regularity, however, calls for them appearing in the newspapers. The first call is dated April 4, 1767, is signed by J. H. Goetschius, gives a list of the original trustees, and summons them for formal organization. The first site of the college was at the northeast corner of Albany and Neilson streets; the second site, from 1789, was at the head of Schureman Street where George Street and Livingston Avenue now join; the third and present site was acquired in 1808.

The New York Journal or The General Advertiser, October 24, 1771, contains the following notice:

“To the PUBLIC.

Whereas the Trustees of Queen's College, in New Jersey, at their Meeting in May last (the Honourable Frederick Smith, Esq; presiding) did fix said College at the City of New Brunswick, and at their last Meeting, held according to appointment of the former, on the fifth of this Instant, at the Place aforesaid, (his Excellency William Franklin, Esq; presiding) it was unanimously agreed, that in order to carry this Institution into immediate Execution, an able well qualified Person be elected and appointed Tutor, to instruct the Students who shall offer themselves, in the learned Languages, liberal Arts and Sciences, in order to prepare them for the usual Degrees; and for that Purpose elected, constituted, and appointed, Mr. Frederick Frelinghuysen, who is also to teach the English Language grammatically. The Trustees have likewise ordered that the Revd. Messieurs John Light, Jacob R. Hardenberg, and Johannis M. Van Harlingen together with the Tutor aforesaid, do take upon them the Government and direction of the said Institution until a well qualified President can be procured. The Publick is therefore notified, that the said College will be opened on the second Tuesday of November next, at the Place appointed, where proper Attendance will be given. It is supposed that the Character of the Gentleman appointed Tutor is become so well known, by discovering his singular Genius in the Course of his studies at Nassau Hall, (where he had a liberal Education) that it needs no farther Recommendation from us.—

The Public may depend upon finding good and sufficient Board at private Houses at said Place, and as cheap (if not cheaper) than at any other Places where Colleges are erected.—As said College is calculated to promote Learning in general for the good of the Community, therefore the Gentlemen Students may expect to be treated with becoming Candour, without any Discrimination with Respect to their Religious Sentiments; and will also have Opportunity to attend the divine Worship of different Denominations in said City—The Students offering themselves to enter said College, shall be admitted into such of the Classes as they shall be qualified for.

By Order of the Trustees,

Jacob R. Hardenberg, Clerk,

New Brunswick, the 10th. Oct. 1771.”

(N. J. Archives, First Series, Vol. 27, p. 607.)

The New York Mercury, November 11, 1771, giving the same notice adds this postscript:

“The Grammar School kept here some years is also to be continued with proper care and industry to prepare for college.”

The New York Journal and General Advertiser, April 30, 1772, contains the following notice:

“THE RESPECTABLE PUBLIC is hereby informed that agreeable to a former advertisement, a Seminary of Learning was opened at New Brunswick, last November, by the name of *Queen's College*, and also a Grammar School, in order to prepare Youth for the same. Any Parents or Guardians who may be inclined to send their Children to this Institution, may depend upon having them instructed with the greatest Care and Diligence in all the Arts and Sciences usually taught in public Schools; the strictest Regard will be paid to their moral Conduct, (and in a word) to every Thing which may tend to render them a Pleasure to their Friends, and an Ornament to their Species.

Also to obviate the objection of some to sending their Children on Account of their small Proficiency in English, a proper Person has been provided, who attends at the Grammar School an Hour a Day, and teaches Reading, Writing and Arithmetic with becoming Accuracy—

It is hoped that the above Considerations, together with the healthy and convenient Situation of the Place, on a Pleasant and navigable River, in the midst of a plentiful Country; the Reasonableness of the Inhabitants in the Price of Board, and the easy Access from all Places, either by Land or Water will be esteemed by the considerate Public, as a sufficient Recommendation of this infant College, which (as it is erected upon so Catholic a Plan) will undoubtedly prove *advantageous* to our new American World, by assisting its SISTER SEMINARIES to cultivate Piety, Learning and Liberty.

Per Order of the Trustees,

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, Tutor.

N. B. The Vacation of the College will be expired on Wednesday the 6th of May, any Students then offering themselves shall be admitted into such Class, as (upon Examination) they shall be found capable of entering.”

Infernal Tory Plot. A plot to give New York City to the British, in which men of high standing were concerned and the plan of which included the murder of General Washington and other officers, the blowing up of magazines and the spiking of cannon. The Mayor of the city, David Matthews, is supposed to have been implicated in it: a witness stated that he had received from him upwards of a hundred pounds to pay those enlisting in the King's service: there was no sure proof of his guilt, but he was later sent to Connecticut and imprisoned at Litchfield. The plot was traced to Governor Tryon. None of the leaders received adequate punishment. One man was executed for his share in it, as told in this letter, Thomas Hickey, a private in General Washington's life-guard. He was tried by court martial, June 26, 1776, and he was hung near the Bowery Lane between the encampments of the brigades of General Spencer and Lord Stirling, in the presence, it is said, of a multitude of spectators. One of the spectators, beside John Stagg, Junior, was William Eustis, who also wrote a letter on the very day of the execution, describing the affair in similar words and in greater detail.

(New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Volume 23 (1869), p. 205.)

The Athenian Society. This is referred to also in Letter XIII, where the Polemical Society is also mentioned, and in Letter XXIII. Apparently literary societies were formed in the earliest days of Queen's College, forerunners of the Philoclean and Peithessophian Societies founded at Rutgers in 1827.

LETTER II.

North Branch. In Somerset County, New Jersey, the home of John Bogart and the home of Queen's College for a time. The address of this letter suggests that the college was there at this time, 1776, when the British were occupying New Brunswick. In any case John Taylor began to hold the college classes there in the spring of 1778 and they did not return to New Brunswick until the autumn of 1779. The New Jersey Gazette, May 13, 1778, contains this notice: "THE Publick is hereby informed, that the business of Queen's College in New Jersey, formerly carried on in the city of New-Brunswick, is begun at the North Branch of the Raritan, in the county of Somerset, in a pleasant and retired neighborhood; lodging and board may be had in decent families at 30 l. proclamation money, per annum. All possible care will be taken of the youth sent to this institution, both as to their instruction and accommodation. The gentlemen who should incline to send their sons to this institution, may apply to John Tailor, A. M., Tutor at the place aforesaid." (N. J. Archives, Second Series, Vol. 2, p. 215.) The New Jersey Gazette, January 27, 1779, says: "The Faculty of Queen's College takes this method to inform the Publick that the business of said College is still carried on at the North Branch of Raritan, in the County of Somerset, where good accommodations for young Gentlemen may be had in reputable families, at as moderate prices as in any part of the state. This neighborhood is so far distant from Headquarters that not

any of the troops are stationed here, neither does the army in the least interfere with the business of the College.

The Faculty also take the liberty to remind the Publick, that the Representatives of this state have enacted a law by which Students of Colleges are exempted from military duty.

Raritan, January 24, 1779." (N. J. Archives, Second Series, Volume 3, p. 51.) Similar notice in the New York Gazette, and the Weekly Mercury, May 3, 1779, says, "and board had as cheap as the present high prices of provisions will possibly allow." (N. J. Archives, Second Series, Volume 3, p. 302.)

"The local tradition has it that the college sessions were held in the church. The site is on the old 'John Vosseller Farm,' now included in the big holdings of Mr. William Bradley, on the hill at the right, just after you cross the bridge (known as 'Two Bridges') at the junction of the North and South Branches of the Raritan River. This is about halfway between Raritan and Readington; and about the same distance from North Branch. The foundations of the old church were ploughed up not long ago, and certain ancient gravestones were unearthed." (Rev. Wm. S. Cranmer, D.D., Somerville, N. J.)

"The affairs of the college in the Revolution were carried on in an old church built of logs, with a frame addition, which stood near the junction of the North and South Branches of the Raritan river, in Branchburg township, Somerset County, on land now (1892) belonging to Mr. John Vosseller, and nearly opposite his residence. It was built in 1718 and completed the following year. It was known as the North Branch Church. The Rev Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen preached the first sermon in it, February 21, 1720. It was yet standing at the time of the Revolution, in a partially dilapidated condition, but sufficiently uninjured to be used for a short time in the exigency then impending." (The Two Colonels John Taylor. Henry Race, M.D., p. 7.)

"It was known as 'the church *over* the North Branch' at first, and afterward as 'the church of the North Branch.' The old village North Branch, four miles up the river, has nothing to do with this story. In 1894 the 175th anniversary of this organization was observed in the Reformed Church at Readington. A book covering this occasion was published by the congregation. In this is a picture of the first church building. Mr. Ira Voorhees, who drew it, told me it was purely imaginary. Under it is the statement, 'burnt in 1737.' That is a mistake. The burning is only a tradition. If burned at all, it was after your college had made use of it in an emergency, for there was but one building there. My brother (John Vosseller) rebuilt the house in which he lived and some of its timbers were in the dwelling which stood there during the Revolutionary War. He changed the direction of the road near his house and the new road runs close to the location of the church. He unearthed the foundation of the church." (Elias Vosseller, Flemington, N. J.)

Wallkill. David Annan's brother, Robert, was minister there. The name covered a wide country in the Wallkill Valley, New York State, and still designates a town or township. The present village of Wallkill is not the place referred to. The church of Wallkill in 1776 was, no doubt, the present Goodwill Presbyterian church, a few miles from the present village of Wallkill and nearer the village of Wal-

den; possibly the name also belonged to the church of Neelytown, not far distant, which had seceded from Goodwill in 1769 and which, in 1831-2, was removed to Campbell Hall. Robert Annan was called in 1767 to "the congregations of Little Britain and Wallkill" and in 1772 he was installed pastor. David Annan, writing this letter apparently from his brother's home, was ordained two years later at the same place. Letter XXXIV indicates that Robert Annan was still there in 1781.

(History of the Goodwill Presbyterian Church, James M. Dickson, pp. 17, 30-32.)

Commencement. In the early years it was usually or always held in the late summer or early autumn. The New Jersey Gazette, August 26, 1778, contains an announcement, beginning "THE *Commencement of Queen's College*, in New Jersey, is to be held at New Brunswick on Tuesday the 15th day of September." (New Jersey Archives, Second Series, Vol. 2, p. 388.) No preceding Commencement date is known. As late as 1854 it was held on July 26. Since 1858 it has been in June.

LETTER III.

Copy of a Letter. All the letters of John Bogart, III, VI, VII, XXIV, and XXXXVI are, of course, retained copies of letters sent by him or drafts of letters never sent.

The Doctor. Dr. Hardenbergh, no doubt, who thus appears as a teacher in the college at this time. See Letter IV.

LETTER IV.

August. The year omitted, as well as the day of the month, is surely 1776, the letter being a reply to Letter III.

Barbara Celarent. The beginning of a mnemonic verse, used in the study of logic. It is contained in the *Summae Logicales* of Petrus Hispanus and is probably of still earlier origin, and it has remained in continuous use. The entire verse is

Barbara, Celarent, Darii, Ferio, Baralipon,
Celantes, Dabitis, Fapesmo, Frisesomorum,
Cesare, Camestres, Festino, Baroko, Darapti,
Felapron, Disamis, Datisi, Bokardo, Ferison.

"These are original names of the syllogistic moods."

(Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology, Baldwin, Volume 2, p. 88.)

General Muster. An ordinance for the detaching of one-half of the militia was passed by the Provincial Congress, August 11, 1776. "All able bodied men of New Jersey, between the ages of sixteen and fifty," &c.

(Minutes of the Provincial Congress and Council of Safety, 1775-1776. Newspaper extracts, August 21, New Jersey Archives, Second Series, Vol. I, p. 171, 1776-1777.)

Dad. Van Wyck. See Letter XIII.

LETTER V.

Lad. David Annan. See Letter XIII.

LETTER VI.

Amice dulcissime, &c.

Sweetest friend.

North Branch Raritan 5. Oct. 1776.

Why you have not written before this I wonder, when you declared so great a Desire to exchange Letters: especially, because there would have been profit in two ways, not only for forming a familiar epistolary Style, but many Thoughts come fresh to our Minds which otherwise would have been hidden. Perhaps for the Republic you are now contending in dreadful Wars, if not otherwise I blame You not but pray for your safety. This Letter I have written in Latin for Recreation. Remember me to DAD and Domine Taylor. O sweetest girls I desire greatly desire to see you.

Where are you? Write if it is possible. now farewell.

John Bogart.

*If it is possible write.
is better.*

*Perhaps you are now waging Wars with girls—
if it is so, remember &c.*

To Simeon Dewitt

*In Queens College
Student.*

The Latin expression is generally good, the grammar sometimes faulty; indicative *scripsisti* for subjunctive, subjunctives *fuert* and *veniant*, where he should have used indicative, *melior* instead of neuter *melius*. *Memento*, "remember = recollect," he wrongly uses for "remember = give remembrances to." The italicized words are (later?) additions in fainter ink, afterthoughts and corrections. That the phrase *Collegio* (should have been *in Collegio*) *Reginae Discipulus* is meant, in spite of its position, to accompany the signature, is shown by the nominative *discipulus*. That the phrase *si non aliter*, "if not otherwise," in the body of the letter means "if you are contending otherwise, contending with girls," seems to be shown by the addition below, "Perhaps," etc.

Raritan. The name included the whole watershed of the Raritan and Millstone Valleys. In a more particular way it came to mean what is now Somerville and vicinity. Now it belongs definitely to a town just outside Somerville. The First Reformed Church of Somerville is the original Raritan Church. It was served before the Revolutionary War, successively, by Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen, John Frelinghuysen and Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh. It was first located at what is now Mannville, a half mile south of the Finderne station, near the Raritan River. The building was burned during the war and the present site in Somerville was occupied. The Somerset County Court House was at Millstone from 1737 until its burning by the British in 1779; the new Court House was located in Somerville immediately adjoining the Dutch Reformed Church by the casting vote of General Frederick Frelinghuysen, first Tutor of Queen's College. The house in Somerville occupied by Domine John Frelinghuysen and Domine Hardenbergh was in effect a school of theology, the forerunner of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary and, indeed, of Queen's College; the house, built in 1751 of bricks brought from Holland by the Reverend John Frelinghuysen, and lately known as the Doughty Homestead, has now (1914) been removed to a new location in order to preserve it.

The College Grammar School carried on its work there for a time, commencing in the spring of 1778. The New Jersey Gazette, June 3, 1778, says, "The publick are hereby informed that a GRAMMAR SCHOOL is opened at Raritan, in Somerset County, where decent accomodation for young gentlemen may be had at the moderate price of 30 l. per annum. particular attention will be given to instruct the youth in writing and reading the English language with propriety. The Faculty of Queen's College having the care and direction of this school, will make it their particular business to attend to the education and conduct of the youth. Those gentlemen who shall chuse to send their sons to this school for instruction will apply to John Bogert, A. B. at said place."

(N. J. Archives, 2nd Series, Vol. II, p. 240.)

Dominium Taylor. The title, dominie, was applied to a schoolmaster in Scotland and England and was used rarely in this country in the same way. The same word, spelled domine, was applied in Holland and in this country to a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church. This usage continues somewhat to the present day. See Letter XXXI.

The Landing. Raritan Landing, so-called in early days, and still called The Landing is about a mile above New Brunswick on the Raritan River. It was the head of navigation, was the center of a very active trade, and was surrounded by a considerable population. A lottery advertisement of early date, telling the prizes offered, says "many of them being lots in the heart of that growing place, Raritan Landing, which is a market for the most plentiful wheat country of its bigness in America." (The Story of an Old Farm. Mellick. p. 174.) When the Delaware and Raritan Canal was built, 1830-1833, the entrance to it two miles away, at the lower end of the city, became the head of river navigation. A bridge was built at the Landing perhaps as early as 1771 and a bridge is there at the present time.

LETTER VII.

October 12. The letter is a reply to Letter II, June 2-th. The June date is indistinct in both letters.

Wooden petticoat. Possibly the small, circular pulpit found in churches of that day.

Cave of Trophonius. Trophonius and Agamedes were legendary heroes of architecture. An oracle, dedicated to Zeus Trophonius, dwelt in a subterranean chamber into which the inquirers descended. "The descent into the cave and the sights which there met the eye were so awe-inspiring that the popular belief was that no one who visited the cave ever smiled again." (Athenaeus 614 A: cf Aristoph. nubes 508.) It was proverbially said of persons of grave and serious aspect that they had been in the Cave of Trophonius.

(Harper's Dictionary of Classical Literature and Antiquities.)

Old Mr. Scheurman. Undoubtedly John Schureman, merchant and prominent citizen of New Brunswick, an elder in the Dutch Reformed Church, and at one time a trustee and treasurer of Queen's College. James Schureman, writer of Letters XVI and XVII, and later greatly distinguished in public life, was his son.

LETTER VIII.

Northampton, Bucks County. William Penn offered the persecuted Dutch in the Netherlands a home in Pennsylvania. Few settled there, but there was a community of them at North and South Hampton from very early time; there was a Dutch Reformed church there from 1710. Simeon Van Artsdalen's home was there and Matthew Light in time became pastor of that church, as already noted. One reason suggested for the choice of New Brunswick over Hackensack as the place of Queen's College is that it was nearer to the Dutch settlements in Pennsylvania and, especially, nearer to the large German population there, from which students might be expected, the German Reformed Church being in the early times in intimate, almost organic relations, with the Dutch Reformed Church.

Inoculation. Vaccination was preceded by inoculation, which was not, however, universally approved or allowed. Gaine's Mercury, February 10, 1772, advertises inoculation at length and with interesting detail, as practiced at a place three miles from New Brunswick. On June 19, 1775, it is published that the Provincial Council orders that no Person whatever be inoculated for small pox before December 1, 1775. The city of Albany took official action, November 2, 1782, "Resolved that the Ordinance for preventing the inoculation of the small Pox in this city be

and hereby is repealed." (Munsell's Collections, Volume I.) Mrs. Washington was inoculated. (Spark's Life and Writings of Washington, Volume 3, p. 404, letter of May 31, 1776.)

Derrick Kroesen. Uncle John Kroesen is mentioned in Letter XXVIII. On Letter XV is the note, Per favor of Mr. Kroesen. The Kroesen family were early settlers in Bucks County. They were connected by marriage with the Van Artsdalen family. "In 1871 one of the old dwellings of the family was torn down * * * and in the date stone was the inscription, Derick Kroesen, May 12, 1731. Behind the cupboard was a secret hiding place, that would hold several persons, common in dwellings of that period." (Bucks County. Davis. Ed. 1905, p. 333.)

Leedom's Tavern. Leedom's Tavern was "The Black Bear" or "The Bear," at what is now known as Richboro, Pennsylvania. It was kept during the Revolutionary War by Richard Leedom, a man of considerable prominence for many years in that locality. "The first tavern here was a little log building said to have stood in a lot at the junction of the two roads. The White Bear and The Black Bear were trysting places for lovers of fun of the generation now going off the stage. The two old taverns were popular headquarters for country politicians and many a slate has been made up and smashed within their walls. The author's first recollection of mimic war is connected with the blood stained fields of North Hampton lying around the two bears where our doughty volunteers met, fall and spring, to do their constitutional amount of drilling." (Bucks County. Davis. Volume I, p. 337.)

LETTER IX.

Rochester. A neighborhood and Dutch Reformed Church not very far from Simeon DeWitt's birthplace and not very far from Kingston, New York. The place is now known as Accord.

Rev. Dr. Romeyn. Direk (Theodoric) Romeyn was a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church. Simeon DeWitt had been prepared for college by him when he was in his first charge, Marletown, Rochester and Wawarsing, 1766-1775. From 1775 to 1784 he was pastor of the church of Hackensack, and DeWitt was visiting him there at the writing of this letter. From 1785 to 1804 Dr. Romeyn was pastor of the church at Schenectady and while there was very active in the establishing of the Union Academy, Union College. He also became Lector in Theology and later Professor of Theology in the Dutch Reformed Church in the formative period of what is now the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. He was a great patriot and suffered for his patriotic zeal; at one time he was driven out of Hackensack by his Tory enemies.

(See Annals of the American Pulpit, Dutch Reformed Church. Sprague. pp. 46-52.)

LETTER XIV.

Sam'l Smith, Capt'n. The one writer of the group who, apparently, is not of John Bogart's college circle. He was Captain of the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment; beyond this he is not identified. The contrast between the spelling in this letter and that in the other letters is noteworthy.

LETTER XV.

Finished your academical studies, willing to take others by the hand. Letter XIII, February 14, 1778, says, "You tell me you expect to be examined for a degree." This letter, June 25, 1778, speaks of the work as completed and of John Bogart as at once undertaking to teach. The notice in the *New Jersey Gazette*, June 3, 1778, quoted in the note to Letter VI, gives him the degree of A.B. when it names him as in charge of the College Grammar School at Raritan. It is plain that he was graduated from Queen's in that year, 1778.

LETTER XVII.

Sunday evening. In the absence of date this letter is placed next in order to the one other letter written by James Schureman.

Cranberry. Cranbury, village near New Brunswick.

LETTER XVIII.

Fredericksborough. Late in the autumn (1778), "Washington moved his headquarters to Fredericksburg, near the Connecticut line, and turned his attention decidedly to the protection of the eastern coast."

(Field Book of the Revolution. Lossing. Vol. I, pp. 331-2.)

"Following the Battle of Monmouth and the rehabilitation of the army General Washington remained upon the Hudson establishing headquarters at White Plains, Fishkill and Fredericksburg." "From Fredericksburg the commander-in-chief proceeded to Elizabethtown, where he arrived upon the first of December." (1778).

(New Jersey as a Colony and as a State. Lee. pp. 215 and 216.)

LETTER XIX.

As Tutor of Queen's College. As related to this letter of John Taylor, written from North Branch to John Bogart at Raritan, and giving personal and valuable details of the early college work, a letter of Colonel Taylor to Governor Livingston, written from North Branch at about the same time, September 25, 1779, is of interest. It speaks of "the necessity of my attending the examination of the students of Queen's College;" states "that I was preengaged by the trustees of Queen's College and that it was with great difficulty that I was able to leave the business of the college until this vacation;" and continues, "the trustees of Queen's College insisting upon my fulfilling my engagements, I hope I shall be discharged from the regiment as soon as possible."

(The New Jersey Revolutionary Correspondence.)

Bray, Van Wyck, Courtlandt, Remsen, Stewart. These students have not heretofore been known in any registry of Queen's College. The inference is natural that there may have been other students as well, whose names are yet unknown through the loss of early college records. Bray was probably John W. Bray, later a citizen of some importance in New Brunswick, a member of the Common Council; in 1794 he was Forage Master of New Jersey, and he served in the War of 1812.

Mr. Eastburn. Robert Eastburn kept a store at the corner of Church and Dennis streets in New Brunswick; his son, and later his grandson, continued it. An advertisement of this store in the early part of the last century reads, "Dealer in Drugs, Bed Tickens, Paint, Books in History and Divinity, also Dye Woods and Family Medicine Chests."

Mr. Brinson. Sometimes spelled Brunson, a name and a family well known in New Brunswick at that time.

Col. D. Vroom. An old New Brunswick name. The particular family is, no doubt, that represented until recently by residents on Church Street just above George Street.

Mr. Paterson. He had a store in New Brunswick and another in Raritan. He was a brother of William Paterson, the very distinguished lawyer, judge and statesman, who lived in New Brunswick, who served his state and the nation in high offices and singularly important matters. William Paterson was associated with his brother in his business interests.

LETTER XX.

New Windsor. Place of encampment of the American Army near Newburgh and West Point, New York.

LETTER XXI.

Halfmoon. A town (township) and village of Saratoga County, New York, about fifteen miles north of Albany.

pr. Express. A system of riders who carried with speed orders and letters from post to post.

LETTER XXII.

The letter is without date. It is perhaps properly placed between the writer's letters of July 25, 1779, and January 10, 1780.

Mr. Erskine. Colonel Robert Erskine was Geographer-in-Chief to the American Army. In 1778 Simeon DeWitt was appointed assistant to him. Colonel Erskine died in 1780 and DeWitt succeeded him, becoming "Geographer to the United States of America," December 4, 1780.

LETTER XXIII.

Millstone. The township was called Hillsborough and the church of Millstone was called the church of Hillsborough. Millstone, like North Branch, was the home of Queen's College for a time during the Revolutionary War, for a part of 1780 at least. This letter, January 10, 1780, expresses ignorance whether John Bogart is at New Brunswick, Millstone or Raritan. Letter XXIV, from John Bogart, at North Branch, March 1 (?), 1780, is addressed to Jeremiah Smith, student, at Millstone and asks that message be given to "Mr. Taylor and all the brotherhood." Letter XXV, March 9, 1780, is written by John Taylor at Millstone. Letter XXIX, June 5, 1780, is written by Simeon Van Artsdalen at Hillsborough. The house in which the college classes were held is still standing; it is near the bridge, facing it from the road which runs at right angles to the bridge. The brass knocker from the door of the house is in the historical collection of the college. The house was occupied by the Rev. John M. Van Harlingen when he was minister of the Millstone church, 1787-1795, and professor in the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick; there is some reason to think that his father bought the land and built the house in Revolutionary time. His uncle, the Rev. John M. Van Harlingen, D.D., minister at Neshanic and Sourland (Harlingen), was an original trustee of Queen's College.

The County Court House which was in earliest times at Six Mile Run, near the site of the present Franklin Park Church, was at Millstone from 1737 to 1779. The Supreme Court sat there at one time.

The New Jersey Gazette contains this notice:

"HILLSBOROUGH, May 25, 1780.

The vacation of Queen's College, at Hillsborough (Millstone), in the county of Somerset, and of the grammar school in the city of New Brunswick, is expired, and the business of each is again commenced. Good lodgings may be procured in both places at as low a rate as in any part of the State.

By order of the faculty:

JOHN TAYLOR, *Clerk pro tem.*"

(N. J. Archives, 2nd Series, Vol. IV, p. 399.)

LETTER XXIV.

Causey. "A road or path raised above the natural level of the ground by stones, earth, timber, fascines, or the like, serving as a dry passage over wet or marshy ground, over shallow water, or along the top of an embankment." "Causeway being a popular perversion, in simulation of *way*, a road."

(Century Dictionary.)

LETTER XXV.

The Budget. No doubt the package of letters and papers carried by the express or post rider.

LETTER XXVIII.

Sir John Johnson. The son of Sir William Johnson (1715-1774) who was superintendent of Indian affairs in North America, conspicuous in the early history of central and western New York, in war and peace, who married for his second wife, Mollie Brandt, and who was an original trustee of Queen's College. Sir John Johnson commanded a regiment of loyalist provincials, known as the Queen's Own American Regiment, or Johnson's Greens, during the Revolutionary War. He succeeded Colonel Guy Johnson, Sir William's nephew and son-in-law as head of the Indian Department; he died while in the office of superintendent-general and inspector-general of Indian Affairs and colonel of Canadian Militia, January 4, 1830.

(Dictionary of National Biography, Vol. 30; pg. 51.)

Cagnawaga. Caughnawaga, early name of territory including Amsterdam and Johnstown and vicinity. The Dutch Reformed Church of Caughnawaga is now the church of Fonda. Conewago in Pennsylvania is a different name. (Doc. Hist. III, 673-4, 683. Col. Hist. III, 250.)

LETTER XXIX.

Shin-curtains. The word has not been found elsewhere; its meaning can only be inferred. It is conjectured that it means a diminutive form of fire screen, made of metal, tin, or hammered iron.

Martin. Probably Benjamin Martin (1704–1782). He was an English mathematician, instrument maker, and general compiler. Among his writings is a Philosophical Grammar in four parts: (1) Somatology, (2) Cosmology, (3) Aerology, (4) Geology.

LETTER XXX.

Little Frelinghuysen. Frederick Frelinghuysen, first Tutor of Queen's College. Mentioned also in Letter XXXXI. See biographical note.

LETTER XXXI.

The Domine. Dr. Hardenbergh, no doubt. See Letter VI, note.

The Dutch Synod. It met on October 1, 1780, at "New Millstone," and Dr. Hardenbergh was made president of it. Nicholas Lansing was examined for licensure, presenting "approved testimonials from the trustees of Queen's College."

LETTER XXXII.

Marck. Johann Van Marck, a Dutch theologian, born in 1655, died in 1731. He was successively professor at Franeker, at Gronigen, and at Leyden. His writings had high reputation and those in theology were used in American institutions in early days. Four books by him, one in Dutch and three in Latin, are in the library of Rutgers College. One bears the autographs of D. Romeyn and Jacob Brodhead; another bears the autograph of Jacob Brodhead; both of these were presented by John Romeyn Brodhead, the historian, a graduate of the college. The third and fourth are editions, 1824 and 1825, of the same work; the 1825 edition has this note, "Deposited in Liby of Rs College for the use of students in theology, By Ph. Milledoler, Agent of Collegiate Ref. D. Church, N. York, Octr. 17th, 1837." Dr. Milledoler was President of the College from 1825 to 1840.

LETTER XXXIII.

* * * * * The larger part of this letter is omitted in the printing, its language being very frank concerning social offences especially characteristic of the time and place in the view of the writer.

LETTER XXXIV.

Penny post papers. The New York Mercury, October 30, 1775, advertises constitutional Post Office established by the Post-Master General of all the United Colonies with service to Philadelphia on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, to Albany on Thursday, to Hartford on Thursday, and to New London, Newport and Providence on Monday. On December 25 discontinuance of service is advertised on account of robberies of the mail in the lawlessness of war time. On June 26, 1775, the following advertisement occurs: "To those Gentlemen above Albany, and elsewhere, who have for 4 years past received their newspapers by the Albany post rider. I should not at this time address myself to you in this sort, were it not that I am now dismissed from the post office, and of course receive no pay there; and I have, at the desire of several Gentlemen, continued riding—but finding it will bring me in debt, unless I am paid punctually for the newspapers, both old score and new, these are therefore to request of all, to make immediate payment, either to the Printers, Rider, or the stages where they are left as they desire to receive their papers. All persons who want to send letters by the post to New York are desired to leave them at the widow Vernon's, at the King's Arms in Albany, where all letters will be received and given out, until terms are settled; and in New York at the house of Joel Holmes, at the North River, near the Ferry stairs. He rides on the west side of Hudson's River, and is every one's very

Humble servant, if well paid for it,

Old Albany Post.

N. B. 4 s a year for postage of each newspaper."

LETTER XXXVII.

To recommend you as a friend. The letter is without address; plainly it was written to John Bogart.

Latin School. This is referred to also in Letters XXXIX, XXXX, XXXXI, XXXXIII and XXXXVII. It was founded at Albany, August 15, 1780. The present Albany Academy is a different institution. Minutes of the Common Council of the city make no mention of a call to John Bogart at this time. The minutes of May 23, 1782, however, record that letters from both John Taylor and John Bogart, de-

clining to become teachers in the school, were laid before the Council by the Mayor. Again, the minutes of June 19, 1782, record a letter from John Taylor, dated at New Brunswick, June 12, in which he informs the Board that he and John Bogart decline, respectively, the Rectorship and Mastership of the school on account of a prior engagement in New Jersey. Letter XXXXI, April 11, 1782, contains John Taylor's advice to John Bogart to stay in New Brunswick for the sake of the school there and Queen's College. Letter XXXXVII, November 17, 1782, indicates a renewed call from Albany to John Bogart and contains John Taylor's advice to him to accept it. Neither of these teachers of Queen's, however, taught at any time in the Albany School.

LETTER XXXVIII.

Distress, bodily weakness, impaired constitution. Such words support the conjecture that John Bogart died at an early age, that, though studying divinity, he never entered the ministry. References in Letters XXXXVI and XXXXVII also support this.

LETTER XXXX.

Mr. Kirkpatrick. Andrew Kirkpatrick, teacher of the Queen's College Grammar School, and later Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. See biographical note.

LETTER XXXXI.

Mr. Freileigh. The Reverend Solomon Froeligh, D.D., was a distinguished minister of the Dutch Reformed Church. While settled at Hackensack, New Jersey, he was also Lector (1792-7) and Professor of Theology (1797-1822). He became a trustee of Queen's College in 1783 and resigned the office in 1810.

LETTER XXXXII.

Lantsman. Countryman, Fellow-countryman. The letter is without address; that it was written to John Bogart is to be assumed. It presents a riddle apparently.

Shawangunk. In the Wallkill Valley, Ulster County, New York. There is a Dutch Reformed Church of Shawangunk, founded in 1737. Its building is a fine pre-revolutionary erection of unusual architecture, the subject of a well-known painting, prints of which are frequently seen. Shawangunk is not very far from Wallkill (Letter II) on the one side and Rochester (Letter IX) on the other side.

LETTER XXXXIII.

The 1st of May. The year is not given. It was surely 1782.

Mr. Derick Van Veighden. In the list of the trustees of Queen's College is the name of Dirck Van Veghten, New Brunswick, chosen 1782, resigned 1789. But this Derick Van Veighden was apparently a resident of Albany.

 LETTER XXXXIV.

From Fort Henry. The place is not identified. The date of the letter is also indistinct.

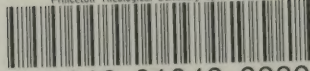
 LETTER XXXXV.

Sir. The letter is without address; that it was written to John Bogart is to be assumed.

 LETTER XXXXVI.

Mr. Kirk. Mr. Kirkpatrick.

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



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